

# SMIL

Connecting the Brain to the Body  
from Molecules to Complex Social Behaviors



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# CHAPTER 3

## BUILDING THE NOTION OF AGENCY AND SELF-DETERMINATION IN AUTISM AND BEYOND

# OBJECTIVES

- Learn about agency, action ownership and basic kinesthetic reafference variability
- Learn about kinematics of complex human motions
- Learn about statistics
- Learn about the statistical properties of kinematics parameters

# WHAT IS AGENCY?

**Agency (sociology)** In social science, **agency** is the capacity of individuals to act independently and to make their own free choices. By contrast, structure is those factors of influence (such as social class, religion, gender, ethnicity, ability, customs, etc.) that determine or limit an agent and their decisions.

[Agency \(sociology\) - Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agency_(sociology))

[https://en.wikipedia.org › wiki › Agency\\_\(sociology\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agency_(sociology))

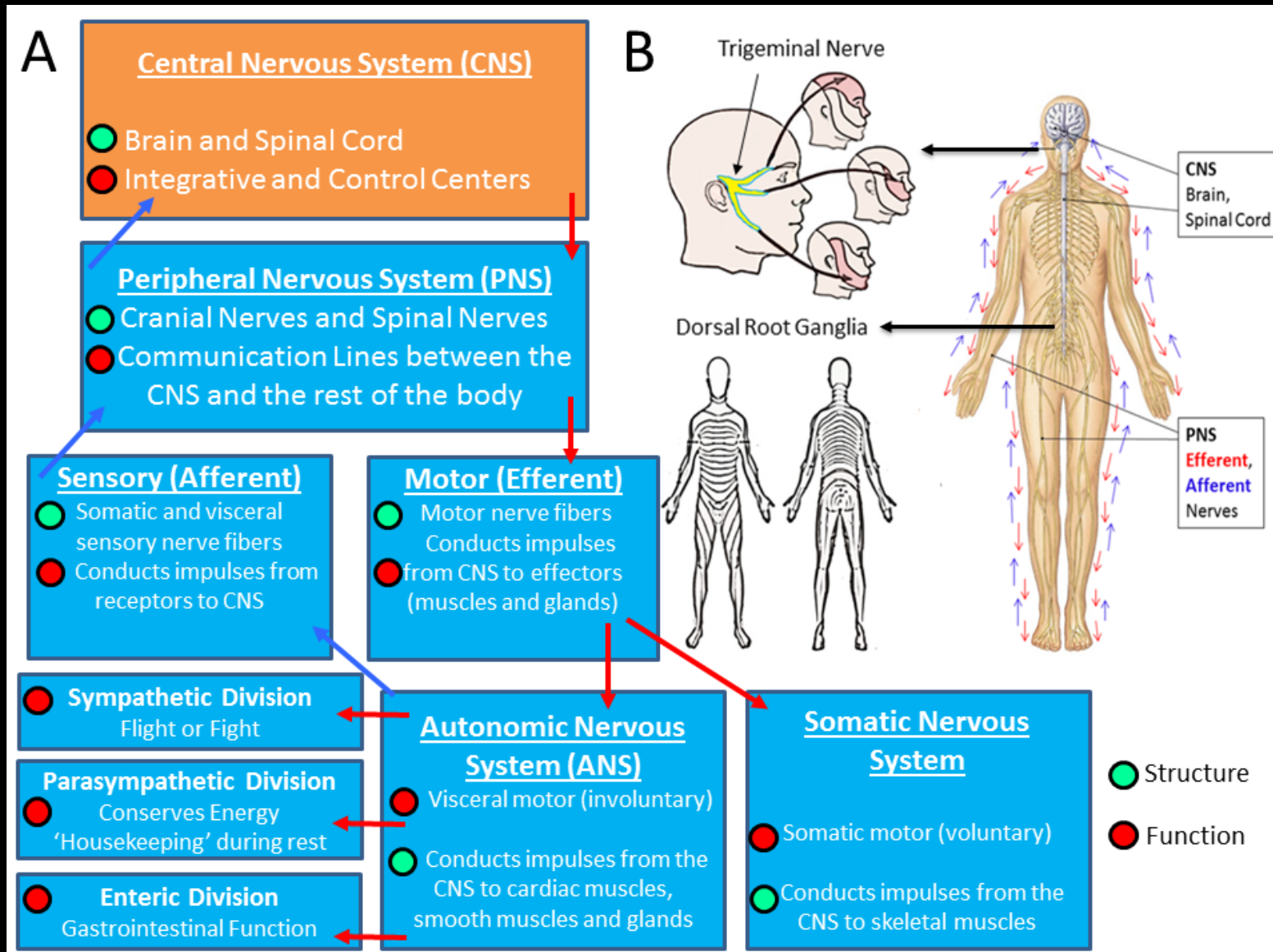
MICRO	MACRO
Agency	Structure
Individual Choice "Free Will"	Social Forces
Solidarity	Social Control

www.youtube.com

# ACT INDEPENDENTLY AND MAKE THEIR OWN FREE CHOICES



# CNS AND PNS

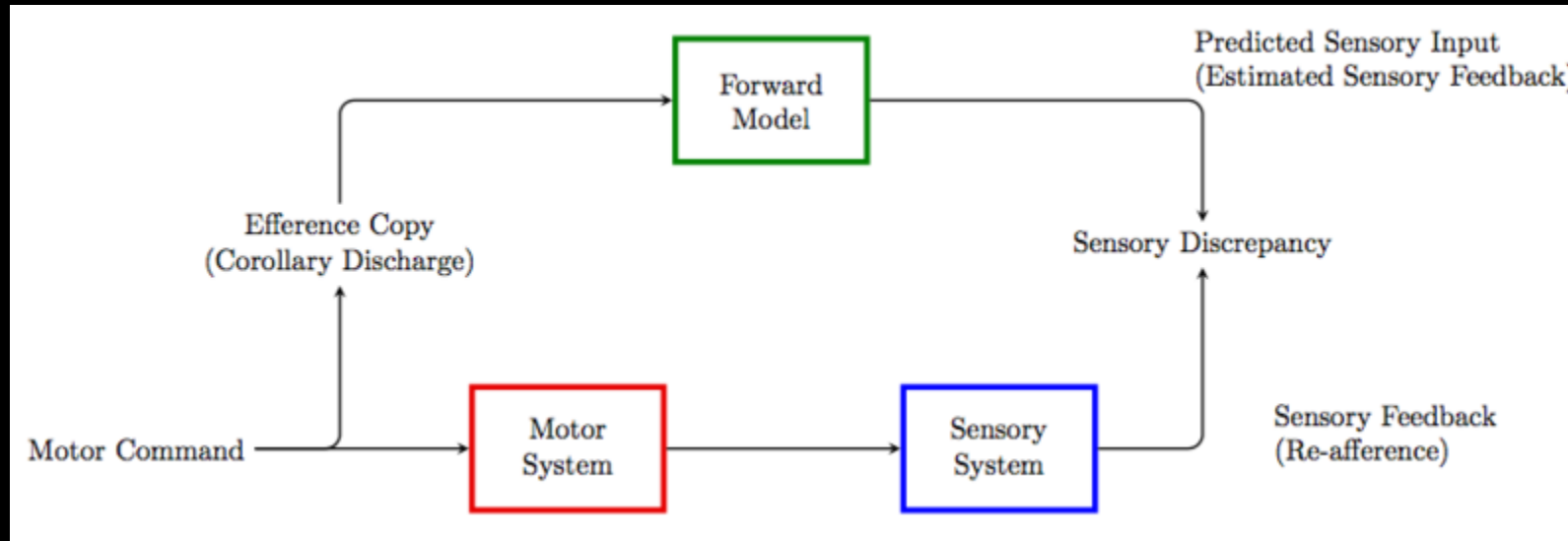


# IAN WATERMAN

<https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x12647t>

**BBC** PRIME

# INTERNAL MODEL OF ACTION GENERATION

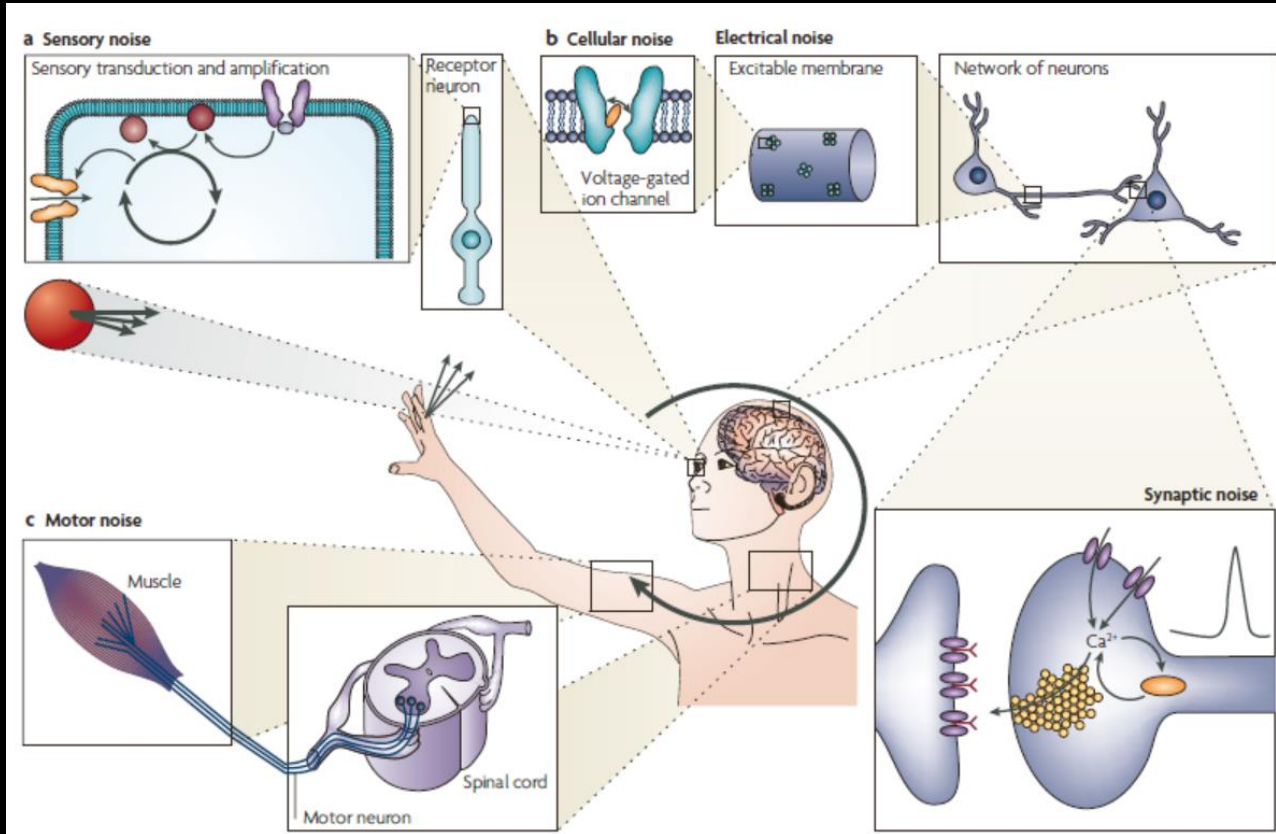


[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internal\\_model\\_\(motor\\_control\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internal_model_(motor_control))

Torres 2001 redefines the model to separate spatial (kinematics) from temporal (dynamics) using a geometric approach Chapter 4 Torres 2018 Elsevier



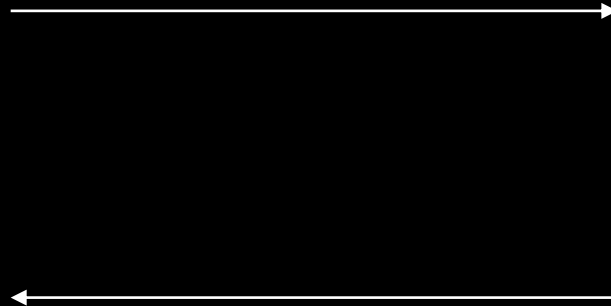
# INTERNAL SENSORY-MOTOR DELAYS



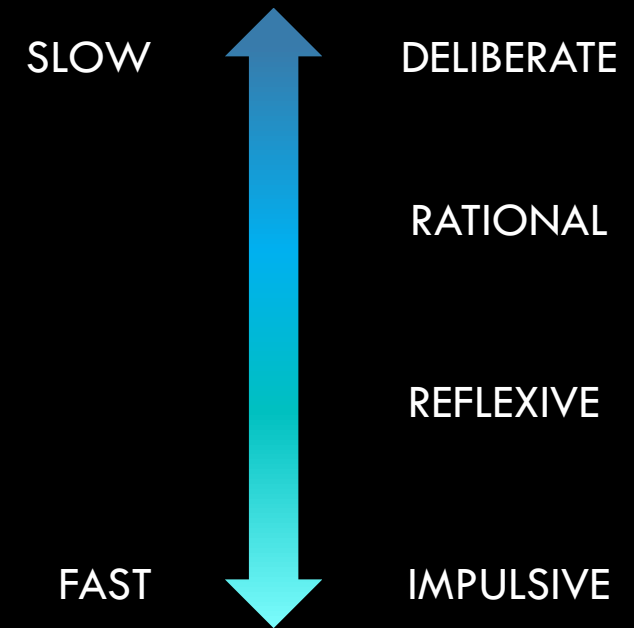
- Sensory transduction
- Sensory transmission (travel time)
- Noise in every sensory-motor transformation
- Disparate time scales (micro sec, millisec, seconds, etc)
- Goal: To experience the simultaneous perception of different sensory stimuli

# HOW DO WE STUDY AGENCY?

## Movements



## Decisions



# DIFFERENT MOVEMENT CLASSES IN NEUROMOTOR CONTROL



Typical Speed

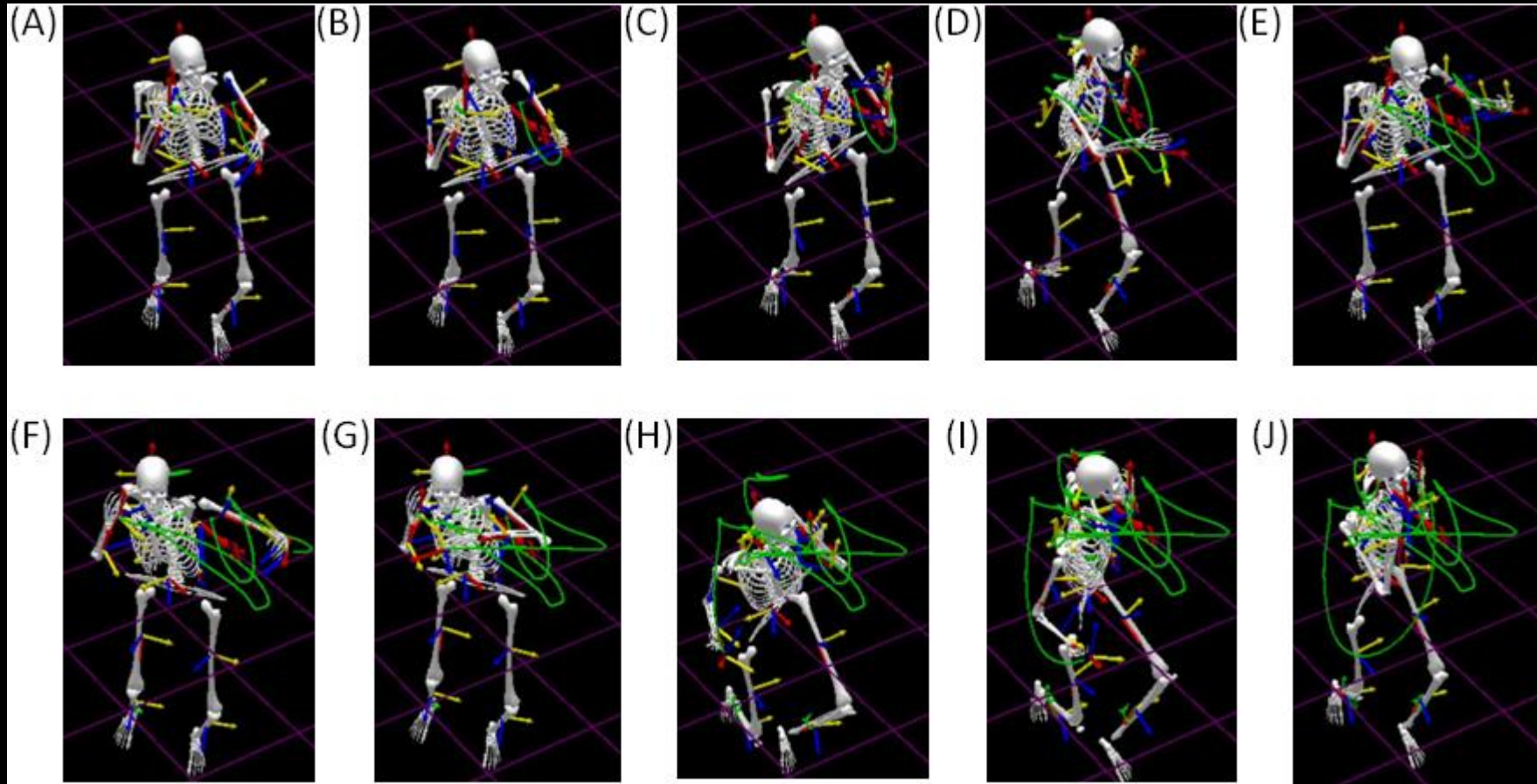


Adapt to loads

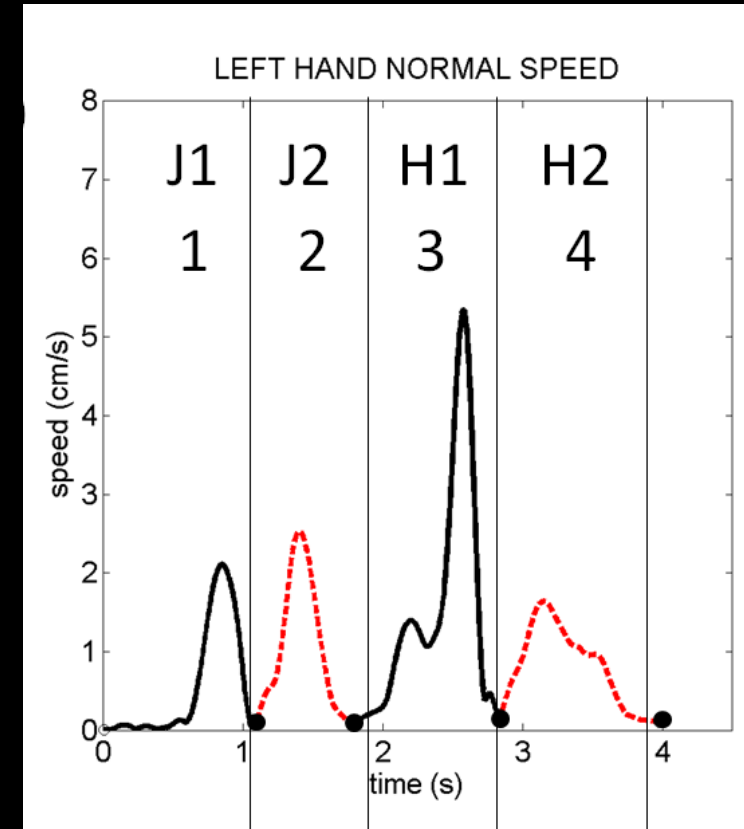
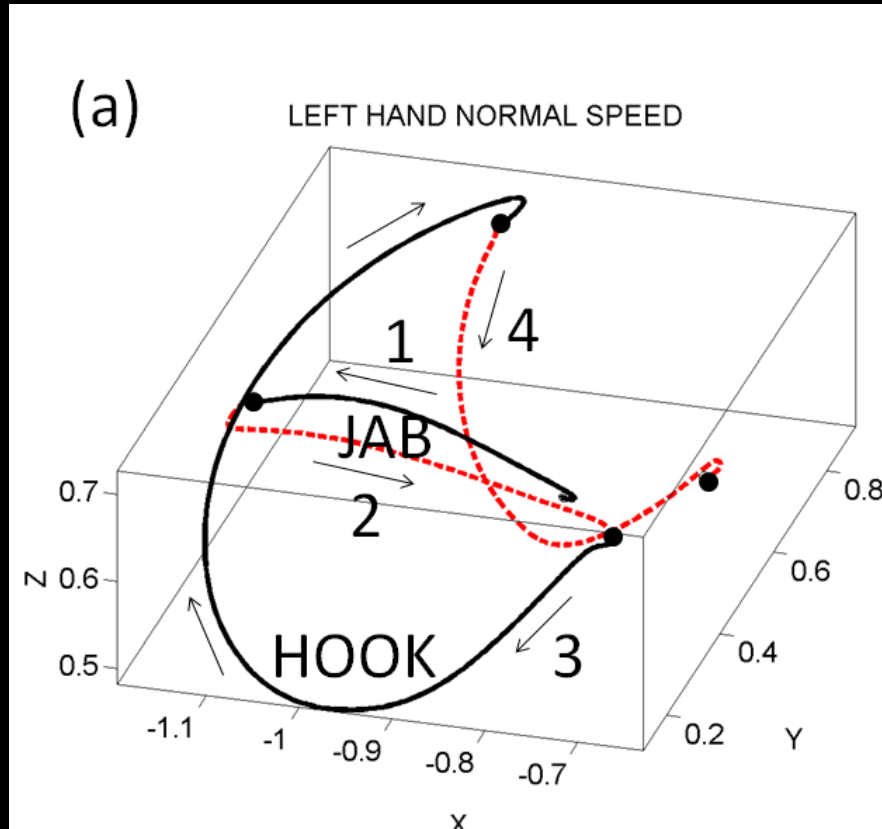


Deadapt from loads

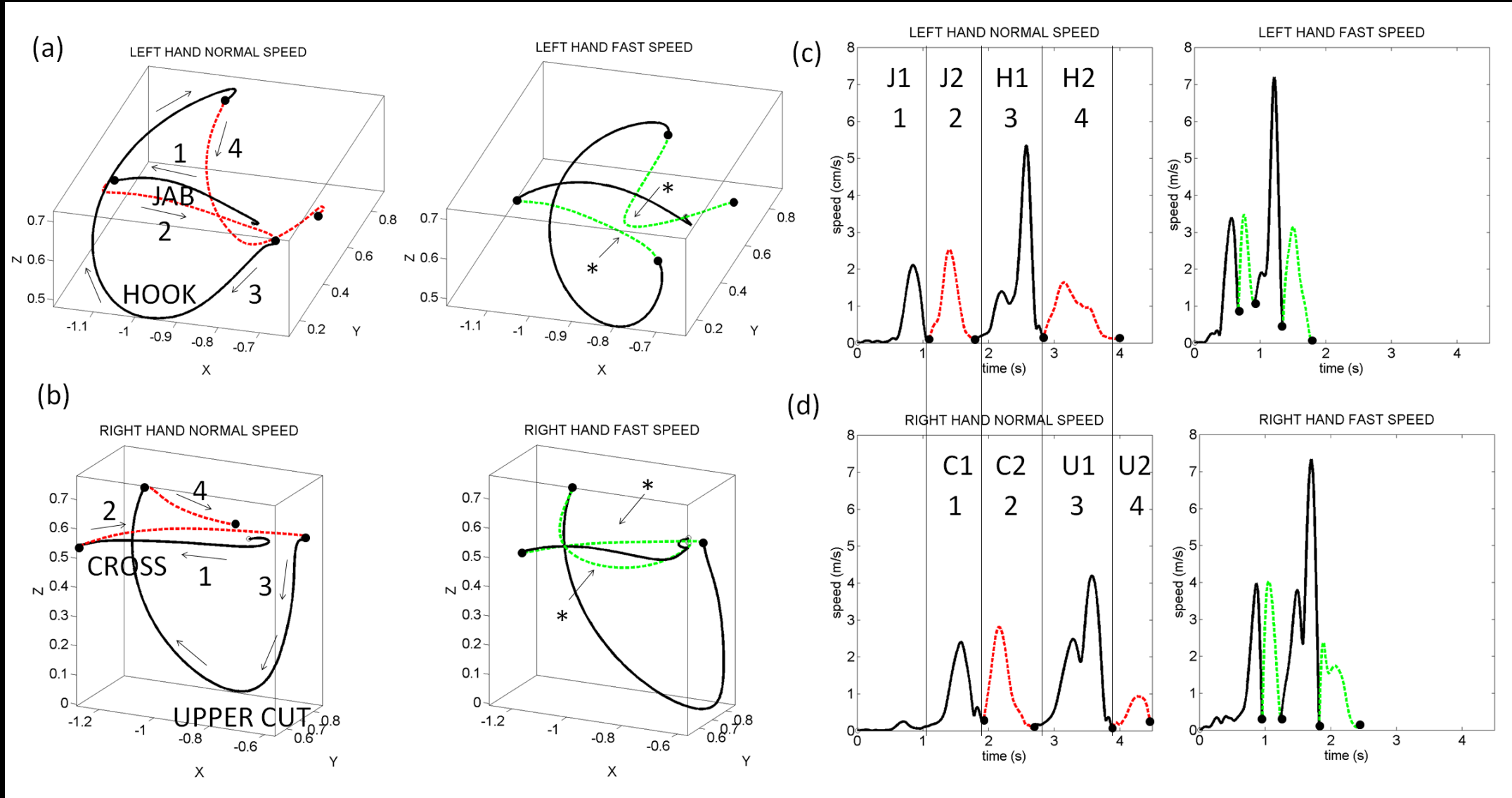
# JAB-CROSS-HOOK-UPPERCUT



# FROM POSITION TO SPEED

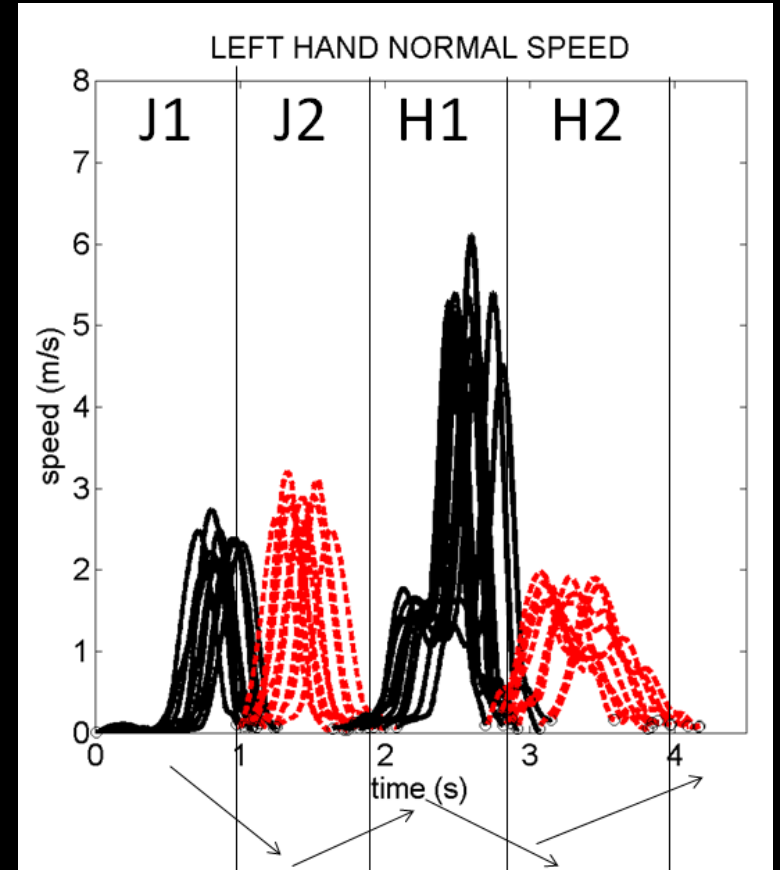
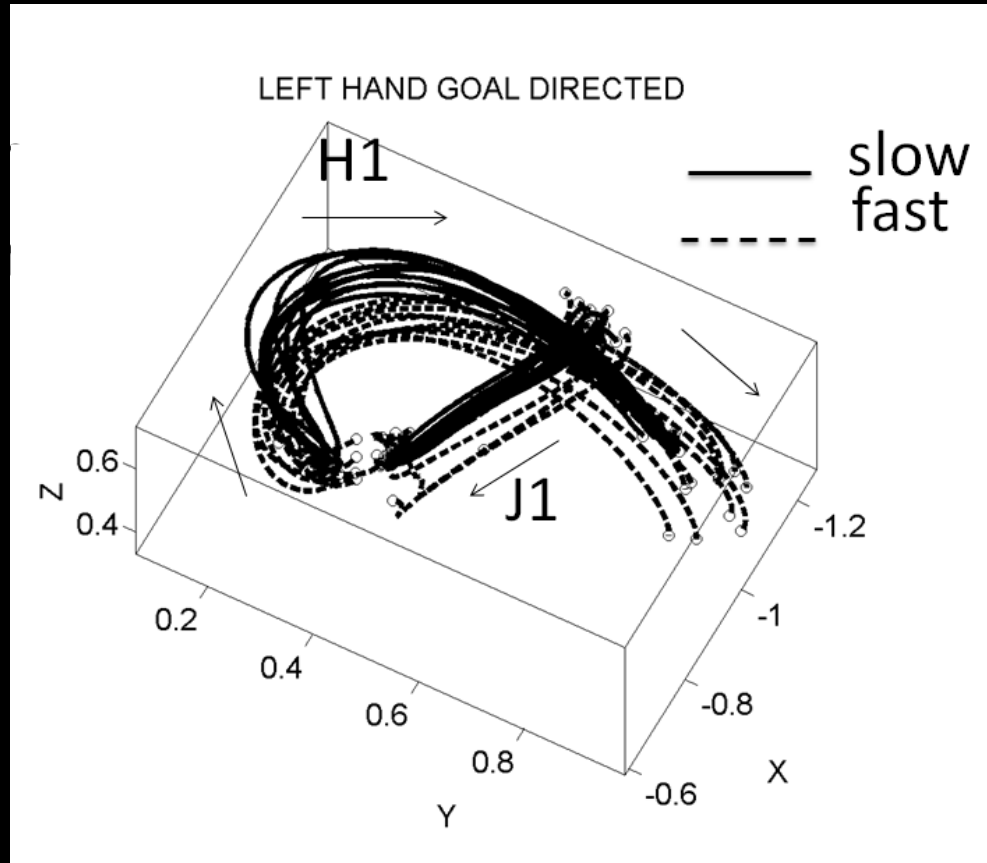


# TWO MOVEMENT CLASSES: DELIBERATE VS SPONANEOUS

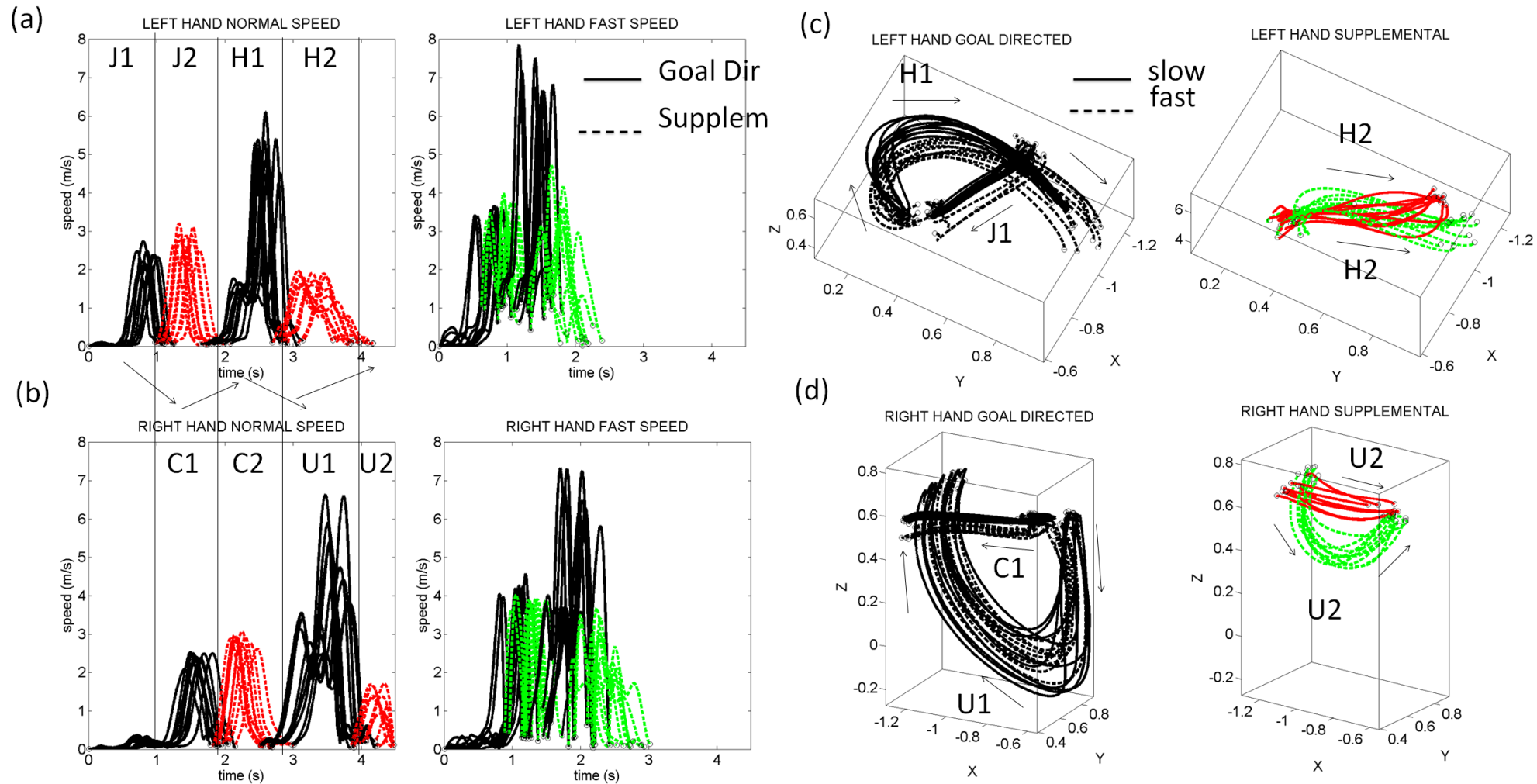




# FROM POSITION TO SPEED



# FOR DIFFERENT SPEEDS, RANDOMLY PERFORMED TRIALS CONSERVE INTENDED TRAJECTORIES





# BUILDING A FREQUENCY HISTOGRAM OF THE HAND SPEEDS

Low Medium High → Measure trial by trial

Sort it into bins

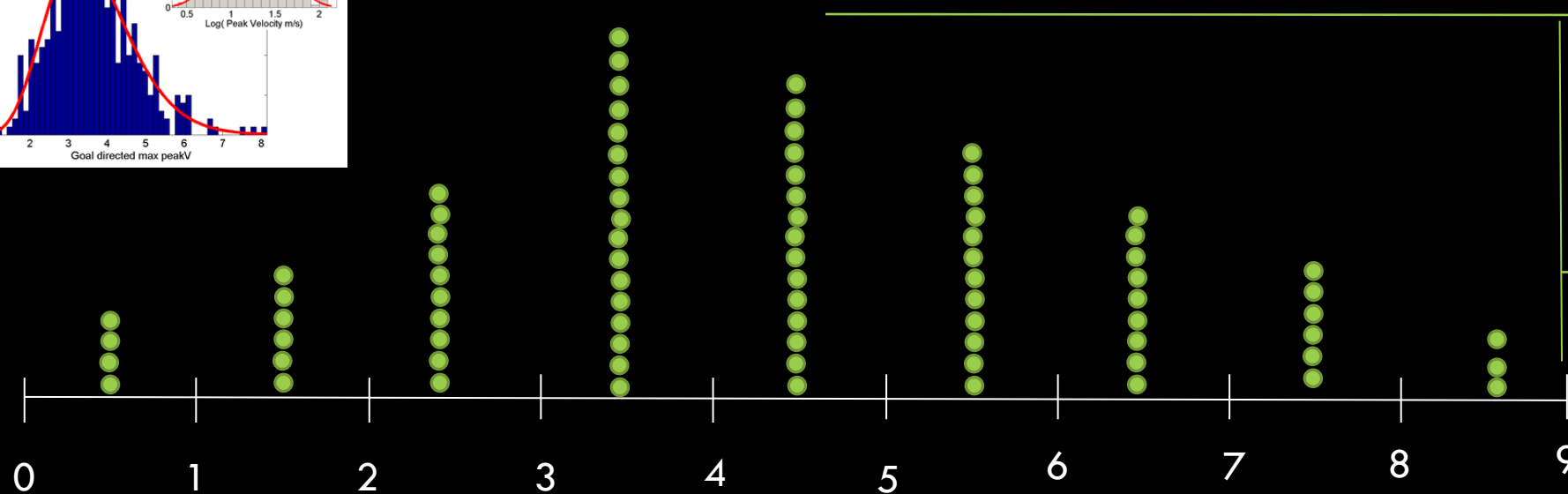
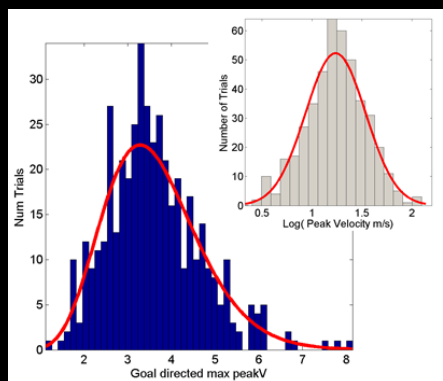
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 → Place in the corresponding bin

Some overlap (many measurements are similar but not identical; hard to see)

Hand speed m/s

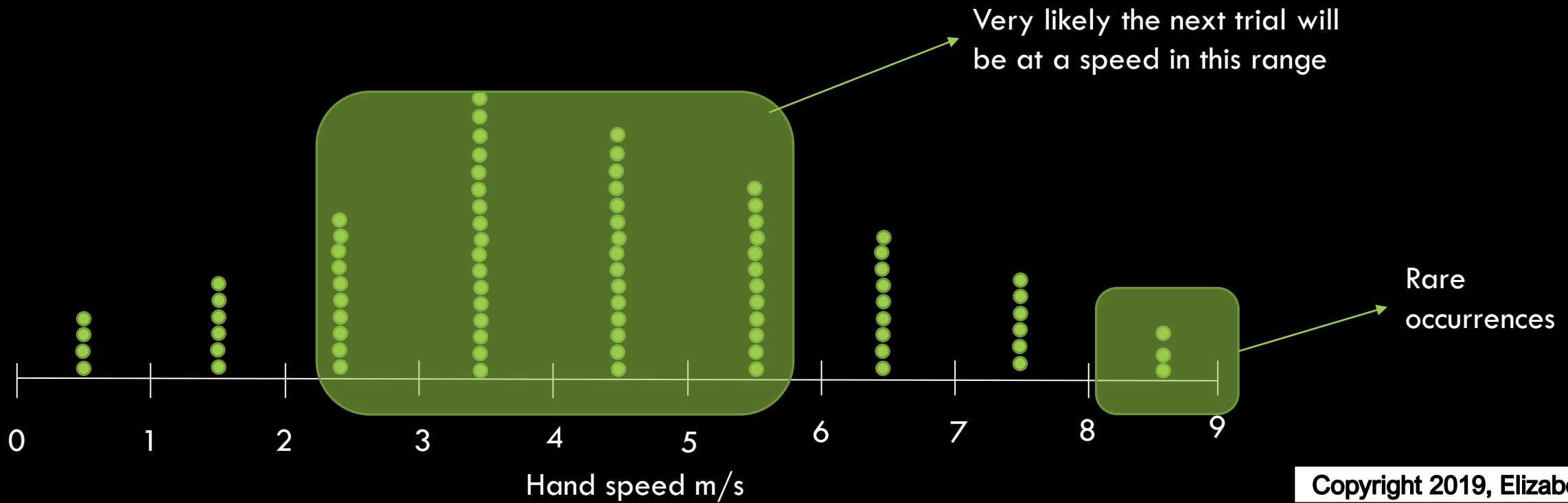
Stack up those similar ones within same bin (interval)

Count / tally their frequency per bin (interval)

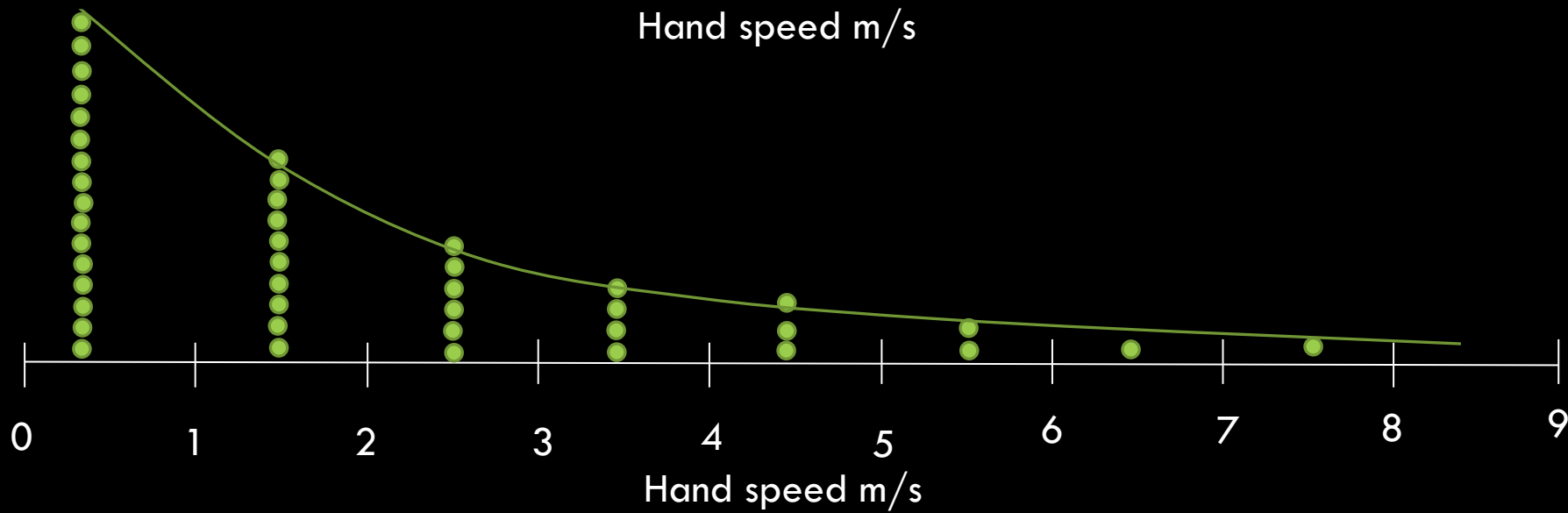
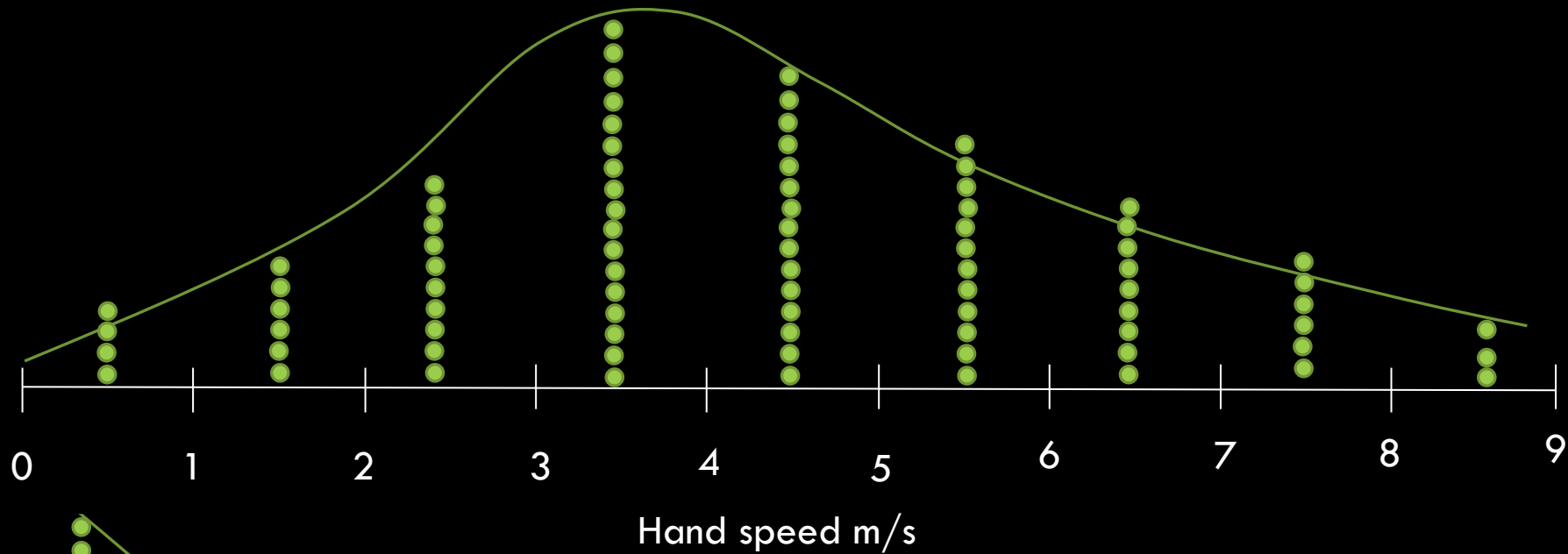


Hand speed m/s

# HISTOGRAM OF THE SPEED DATA



# HISTOGRAM OF THE SPEED DATA



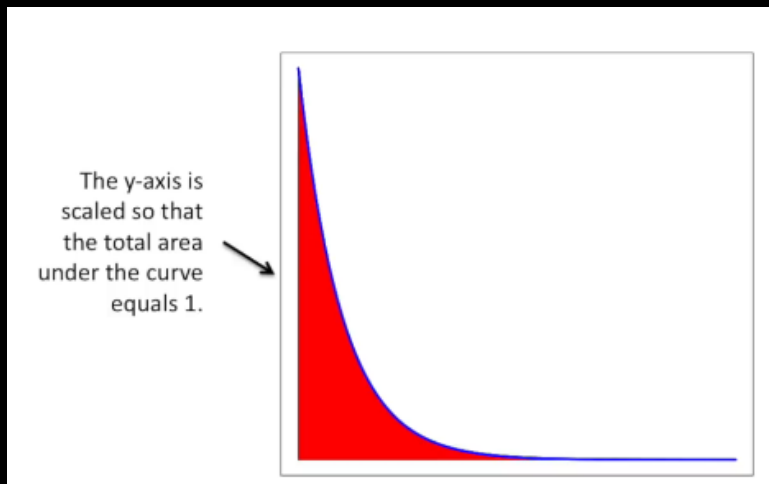
# THE EXPONENTIAL DISTRIBUTION

A statistical distribution that models the times between events

e.g. how long will it be before another motion will occur in the range of 5m/s speed?

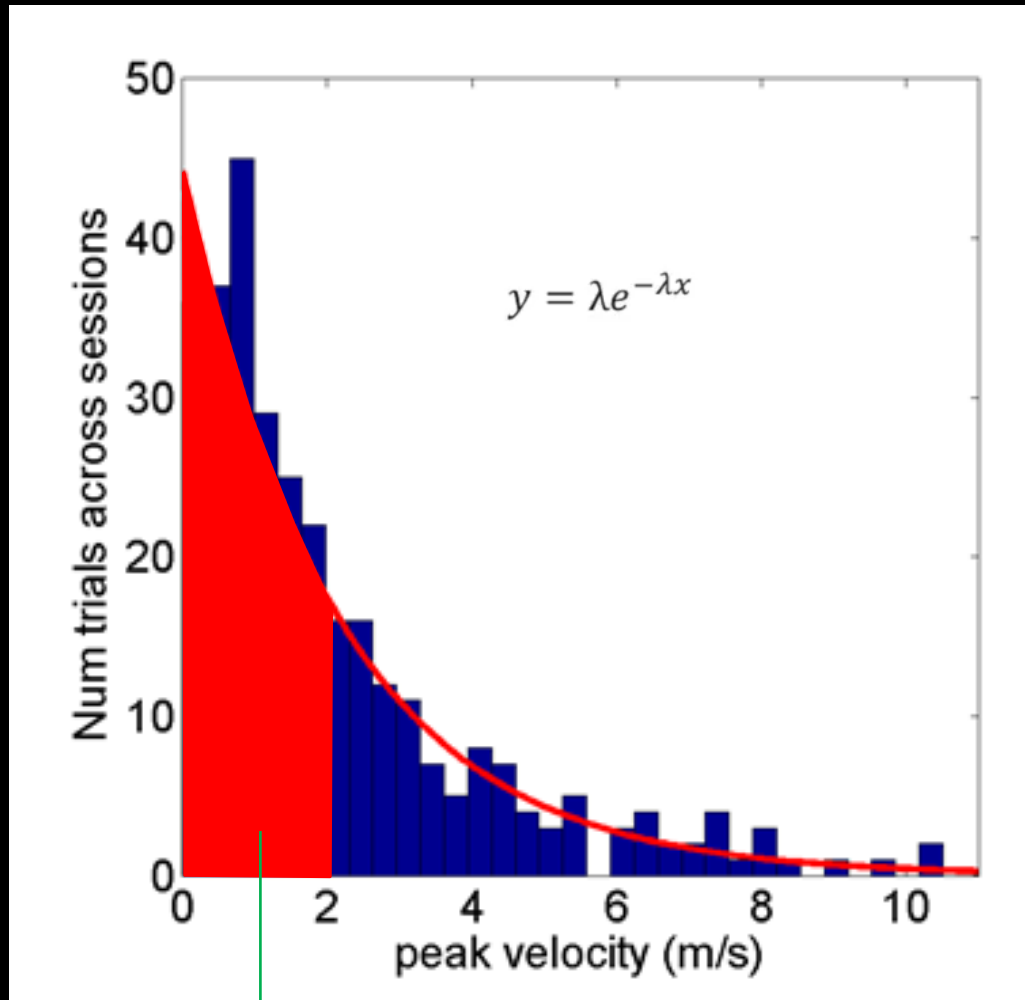
How long will it be before you get another phone call?

How long will it be before you get another text message?



Amount of time between events

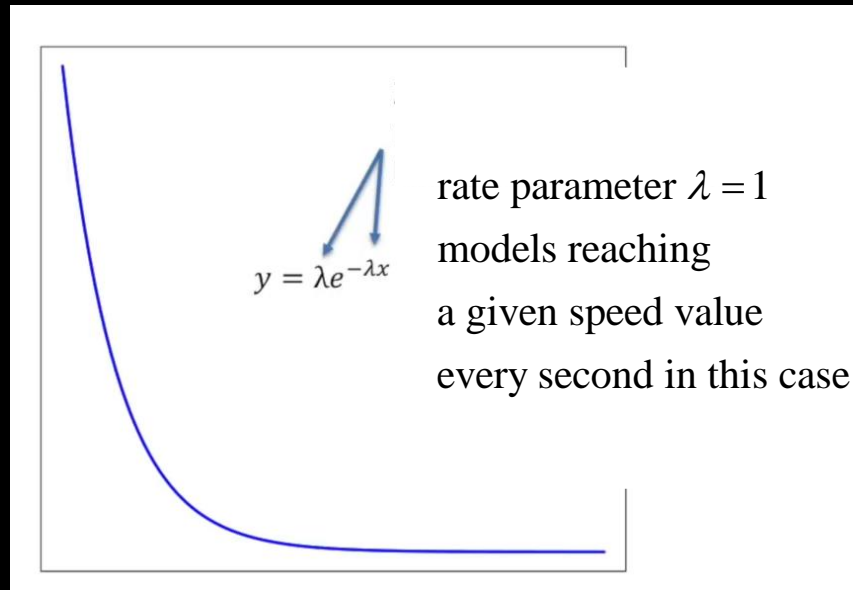
# THE EXPONENTIAL DISTRIBUTION



Lambda is the rate parameter; it is proportional to how quickly things happen

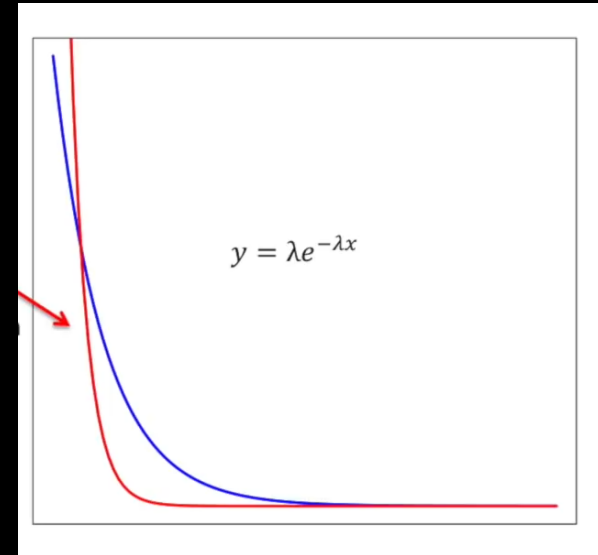
What is the probability of events with speed bet 0-2m/s ?  
Solve for the area under the curve spanning  $0 < x < 2\text{m/s}$

# THE EXPONENTIAL DISTRIBUTION

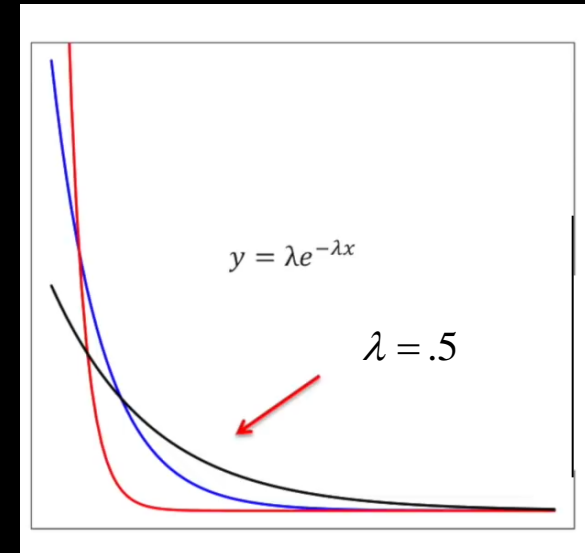


$\lambda$  is proportional to how quickly things happen  
Reflects the amount of time between events

$\lambda = 2$   
models reaching  
a given speed value  
twice every second

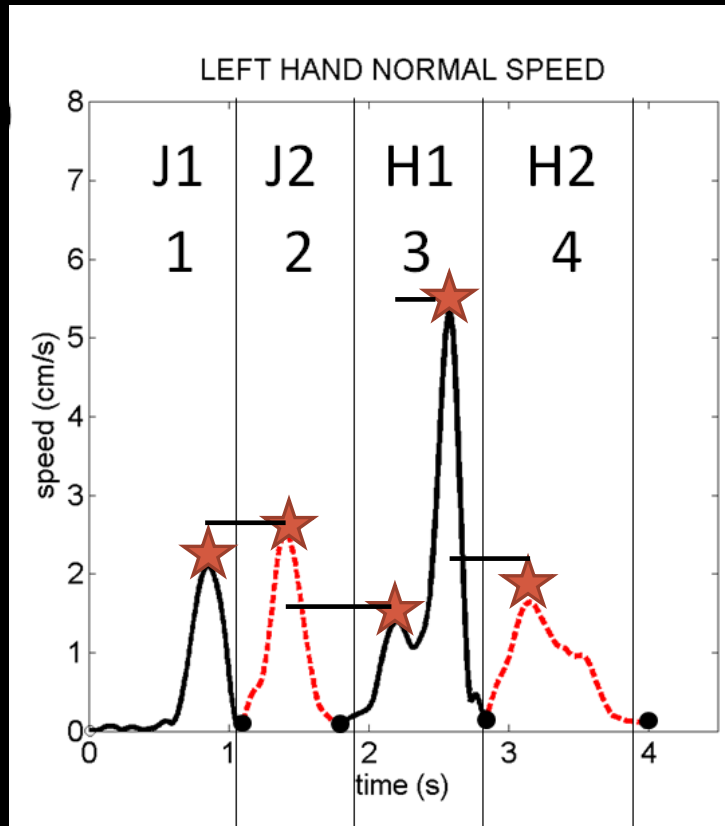


$\lambda = .5$   
models reaching  
a given speed value  
once every 2 seconds



MLE: Given a set of measurements, find an optimal value for  $\lambda$

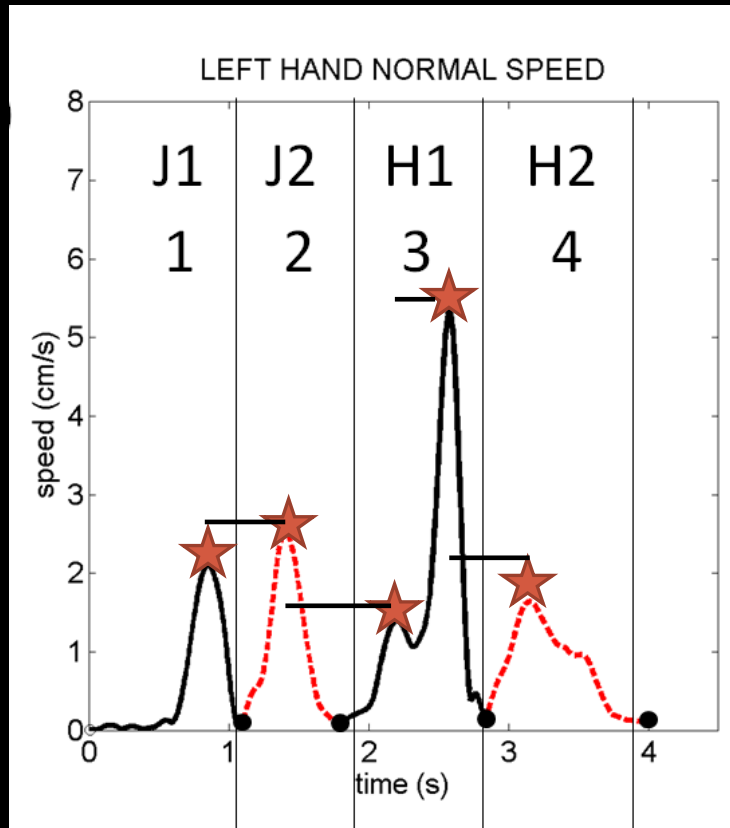
e.g. A time series of events reflecting timing between some occurrence, a text message, a heartbeat, the speed peak of a continuously sampled motion, keystrokes on a keyboard, touches on a cell phone screen, etc.



Our measurements from some sensor

$$\begin{bmatrix} .6 & 1.1 & .2 & .5 & \dots \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} | & | & | & | & | \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 & \dots & x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

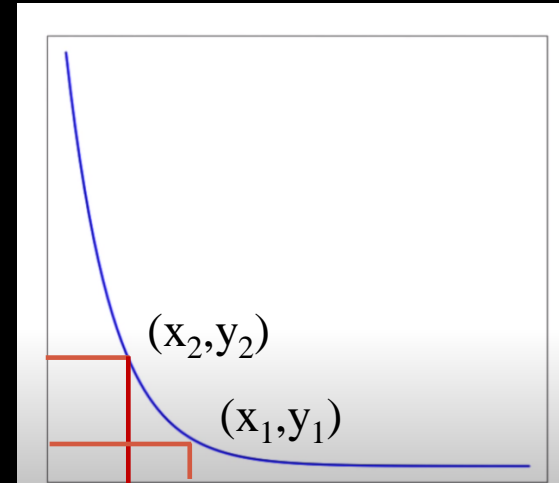
Assume that we have a  $\lambda$  value



Assume that we have a  $\lambda$  value

We wish to know the likelihood of  $\lambda$  given the values

$$L(\lambda | x_1) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x_1} \quad L(\lambda | x_2) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x_2} \quad \dots$$




$$y_2 = \lambda e^{-\lambda x_2}$$

$$y_1 = \lambda e^{-\lambda x_1}$$

$$L(\lambda | x_1 \cap x_2) = L(\lambda | x_1) L(\lambda | x_2) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x_1} \lambda e^{-\lambda x_2} = \lambda^2 \left[ e^{-\lambda(x_1 + x_2)} \right]$$



What is the likelihood of  $\lambda$  given all the values in the time series?

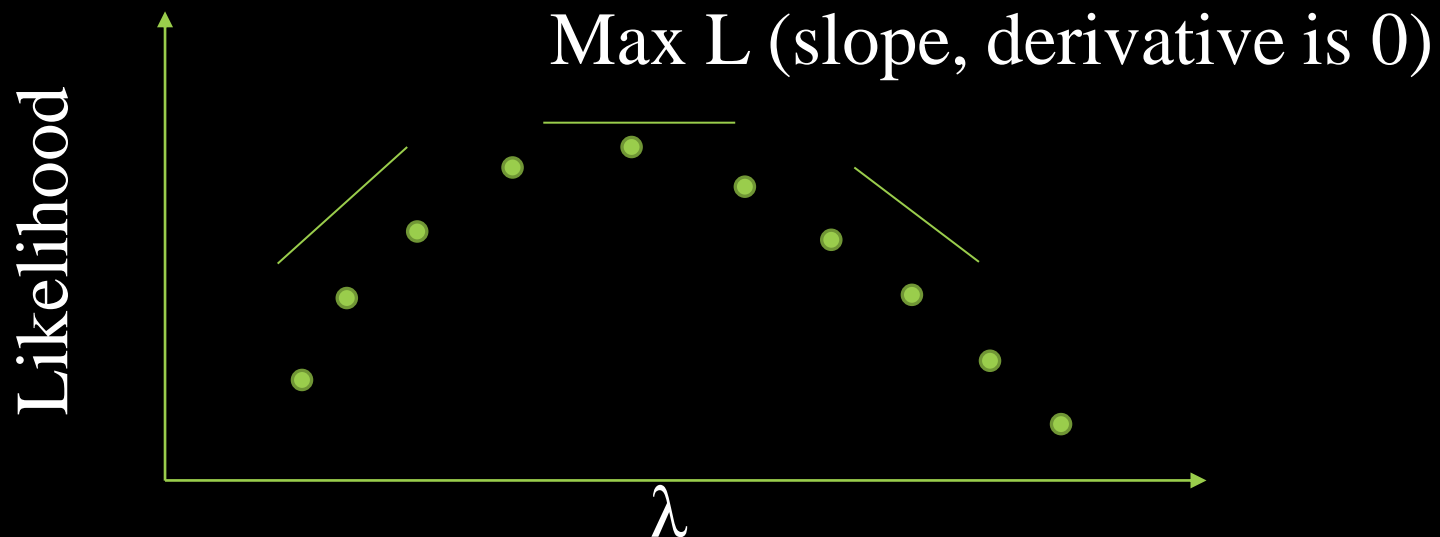
$$\begin{aligned} L(\lambda | x_1 \cap x_2 \dots \cap x_n) &= L(\lambda | x_1) L(\lambda | x_2) \dots L(\lambda | x_n) \\ &= \lambda e^{-\lambda x_1} \lambda e^{-\lambda x_2} \dots \lambda e^{-\lambda x_n} \\ &= \lambda^n \left[ e^{-\lambda x_1} e^{-\lambda x_2} \dots e^{-\lambda x_n} \right] \\ &= \lambda^n \left[ e^{-\lambda(x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)} \right] \end{aligned}$$


How do we determine the optimal  $\lambda$  in general ?

How do we determine the optimal  $\lambda$  in general ?

$$L(\lambda \mid x_1 \cap x_2 \dots \cap x_n) = \lambda^n \left[ e^{-\lambda(x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)} \right]$$

1. Take the derivative
2. Solve for  $\lambda$  when the derivative is 0



1. Take the derivative of the Likelihood Function wrt  $\lambda$

$$\frac{d}{d\lambda} L(\lambda | x_1 \cap x_2 \dots \cap x_n) = \frac{d}{d\lambda} \lambda^n \left[ e^{-\lambda(x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)} \right]$$



When the exp is in the term, it is easier to take the derivative of the log of the function

The derivative of a function and the derivative of the log of the function equal 0 at the same point, so they are interchangeable

$$\frac{d}{d\lambda} \log \left( \lambda^n \left[ e^{-\lambda(x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)} \right] \right)$$

# 1. Take the derivative of the Likelihood Function

$$\frac{d}{d\lambda} \log \left( \lambda^n \left[ e^{-\lambda(x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)} \right] \right)$$

$$\frac{d}{d\lambda} \log \left( \lambda^n \right) + \log \left[ e^{-\lambda(x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)} \right]$$

$$\frac{d}{d\lambda} n \log(\lambda) - \lambda(x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)$$

$$n \frac{1}{\lambda} - (x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)$$

2. Set the derivative to 0 and solve for  $\lambda$

$$n \frac{1}{\lambda} - (x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n) = 0$$

$$n \frac{1}{\lambda} = (x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)$$

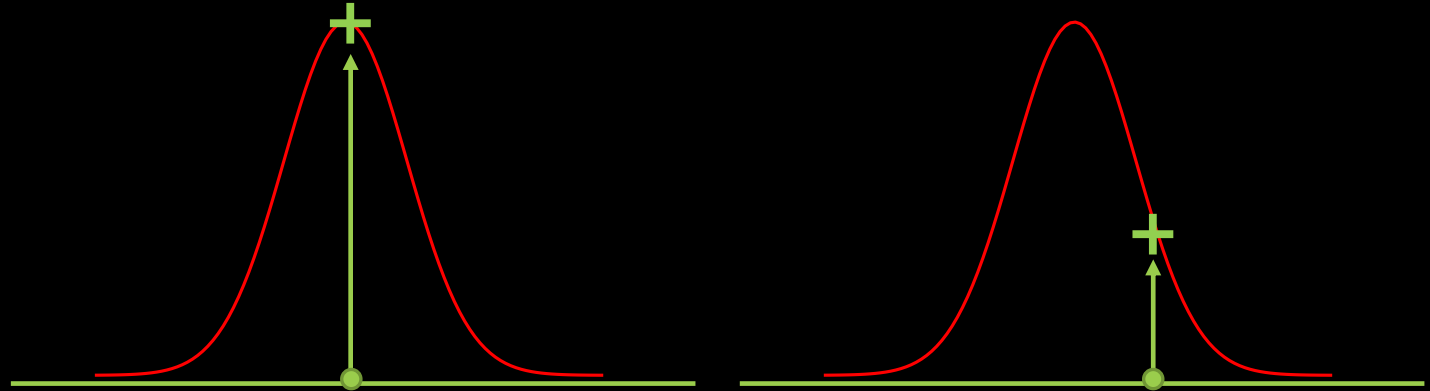
$$n = \lambda (x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)$$

$$\frac{n}{(x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)} = \lambda$$

Given your time series data, this is the  
Maximum Likelihood Estimate (MLE) for  $\lambda$

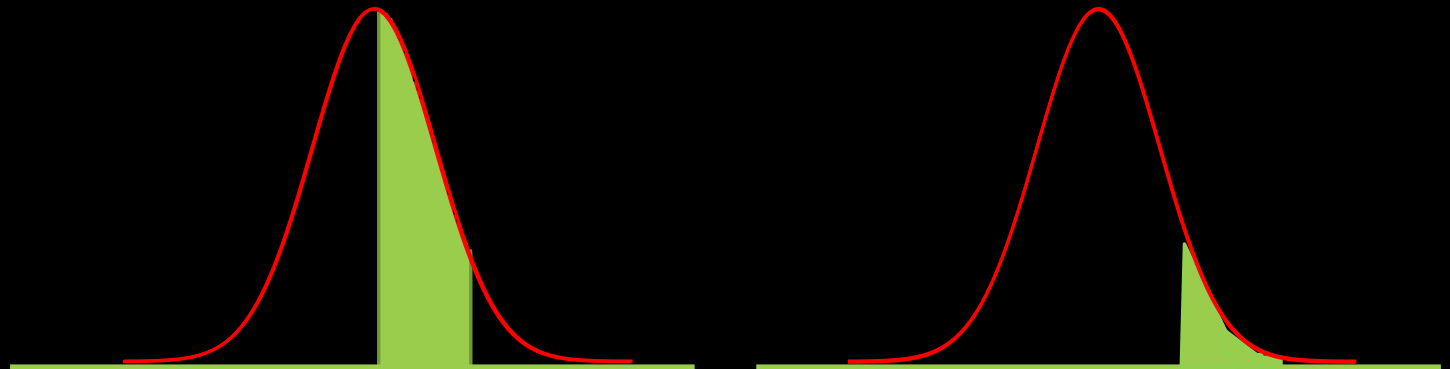
$L(\text{distribution} \mid \text{data})$

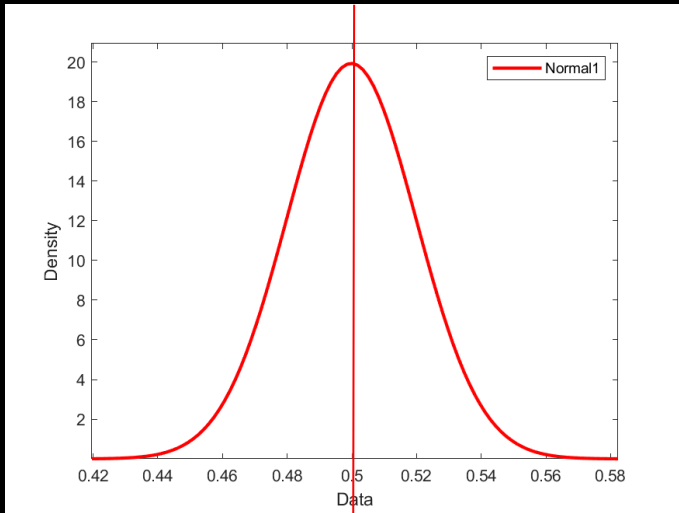
Likelihood, y-axis values for fixed data points with distributions that can be moved



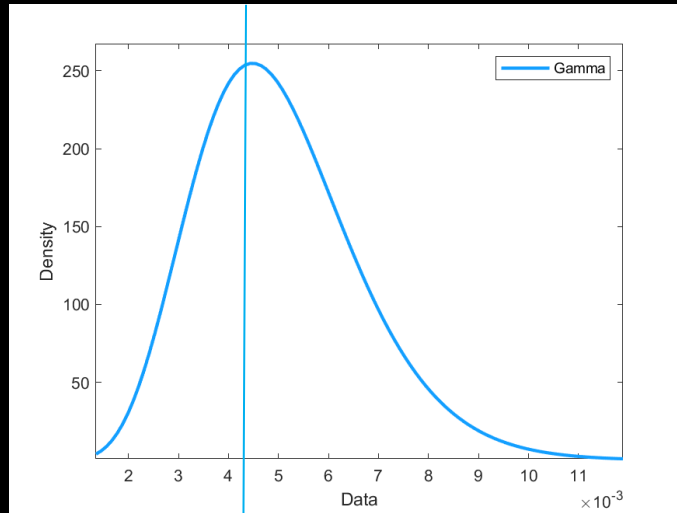
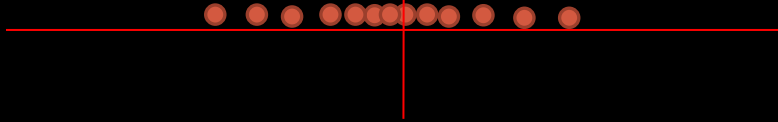
$\text{Prob}(\text{data} \mid \text{distribution})$

Probabilities are the area under a fixed distribution

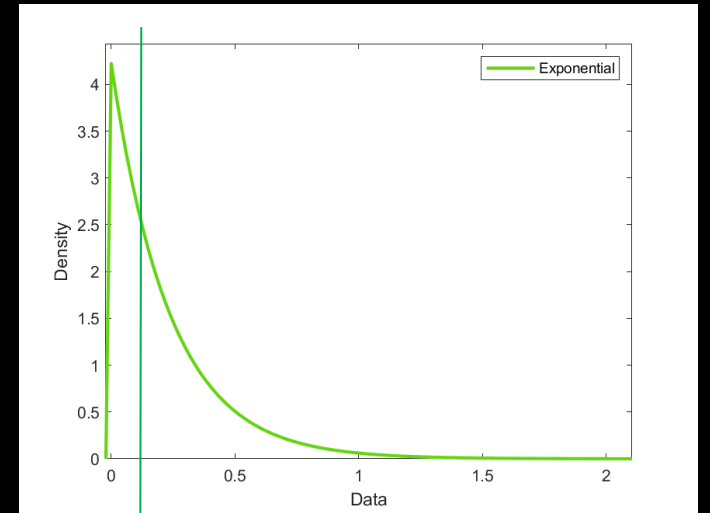




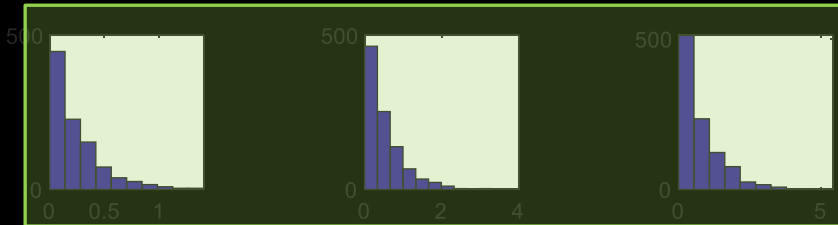
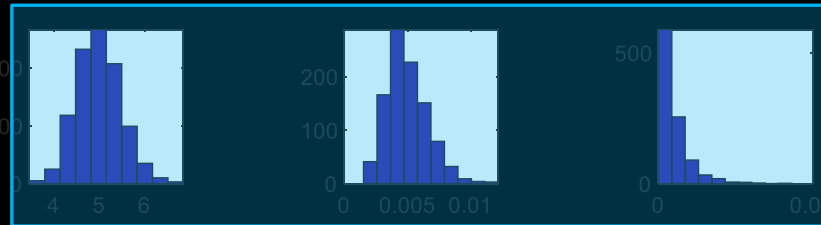
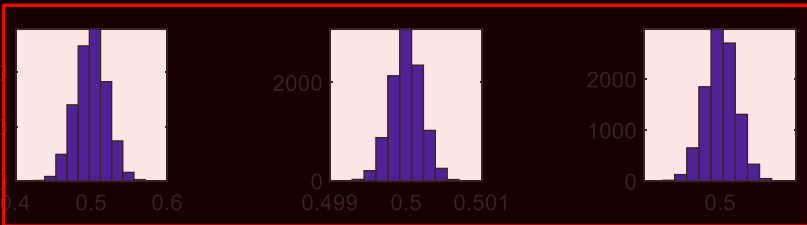
Normal



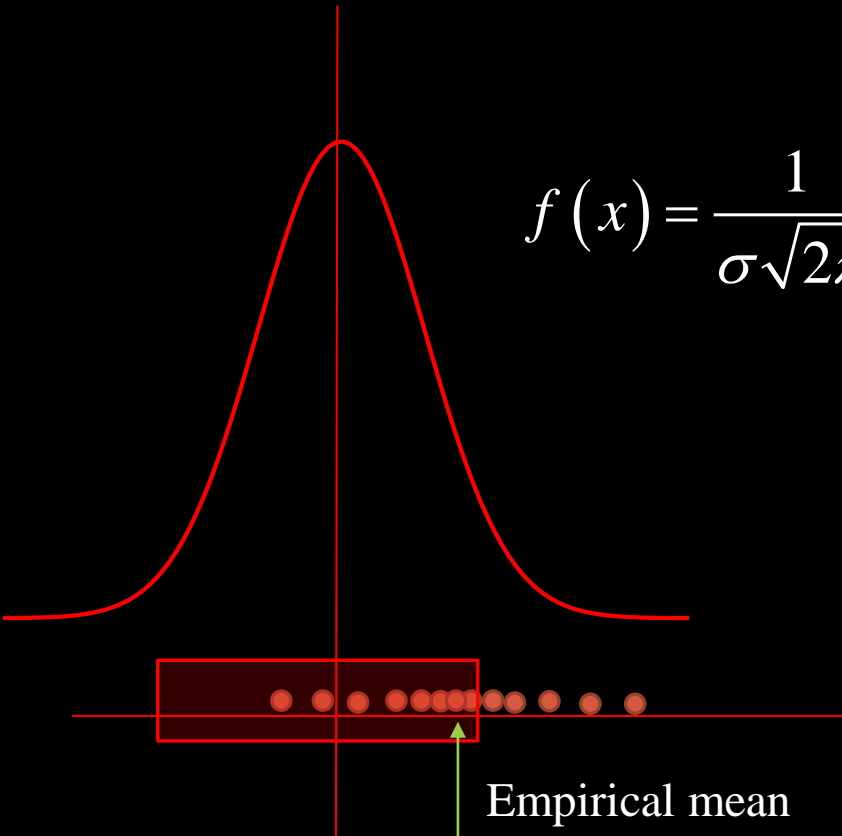
Gamma



Exponential

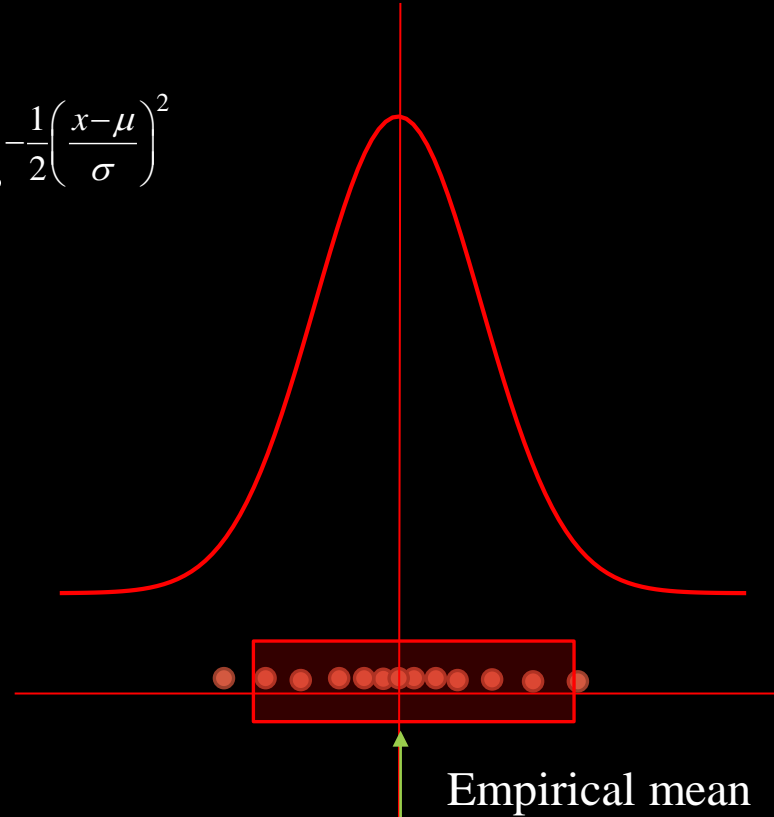


Normal Distribution  
Theoretical mean



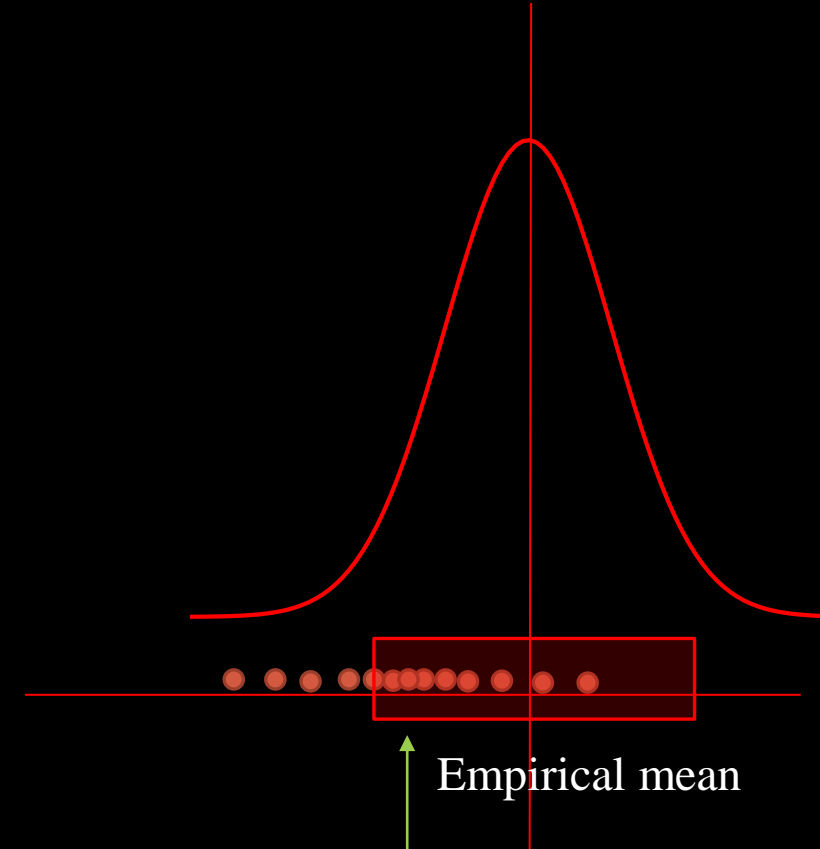
Low probability (or likelihood) of observing these values for the theoretical distribution imposed a priori

Shift Normal Distribution  
Shift Theoretical mean to match the empirical data



Higher probability (or likelihood) of observing these values for the theoretical distribution imposed a priori

Shift Normal Distribution over  
Theoretical mean does not match the empirical data



Low probability (or likelihood) of observing these values for the theoretical distribution imposed a priori



Likelihood of  
Observing the data

MLE for the mean

This location maximizes the likelihood of  
observing the empirical measurements  
The Normal Distribution Mean coincides  
with the empirical mean as the data  
accumulates more densely in that area

$$pr(x | \mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right)^2}$$

$$L(\mu, \sigma | x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right)^2}$$

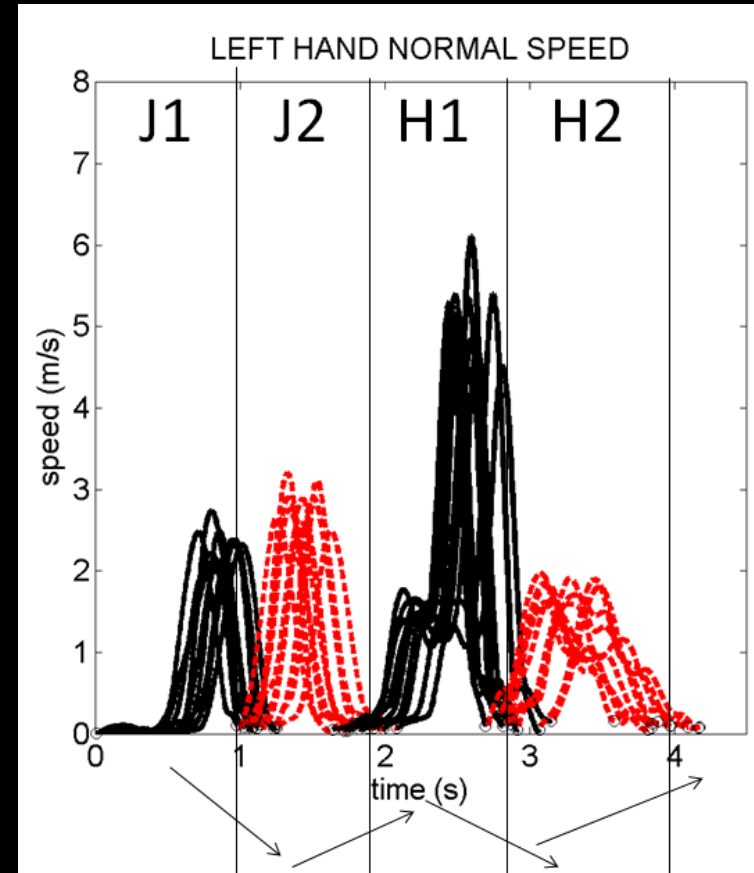
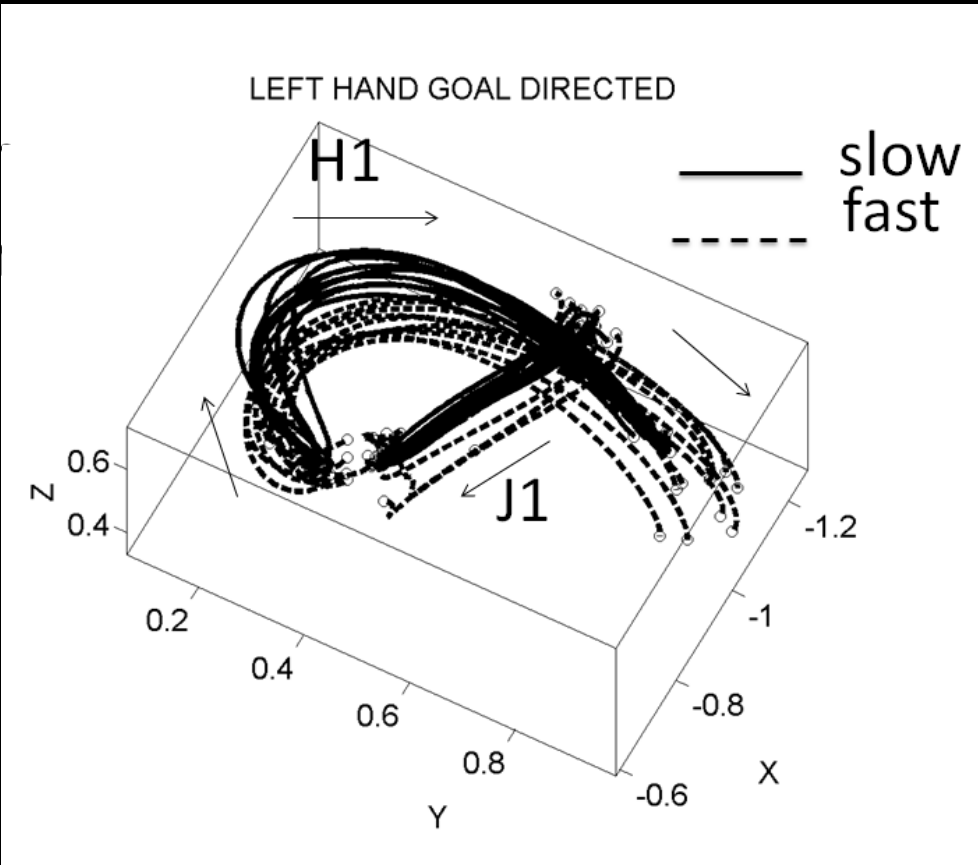
Location of the distribution center

Can do the same for the  
standard deviation

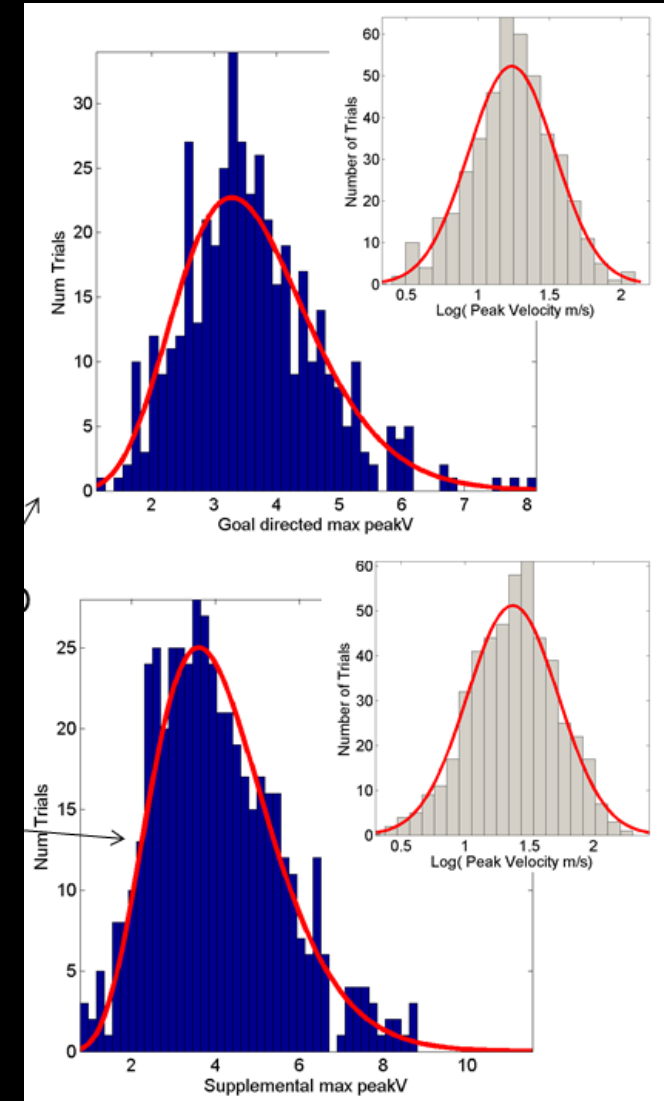
Empirical mean (true data density)

# FROM SPEED TO FREQUENCY HISTOGRAM

Intended (deliberate)



Spontaneous transition



# LEAVE ONE OUT DECODING ALGORITHM

Given the speed, which type of movement does it belong to?  
is it a Jab, a Cross, a Hook or an Uppercut?  
is it a deliberate Jab or is it the spontaneous transitional Jab?

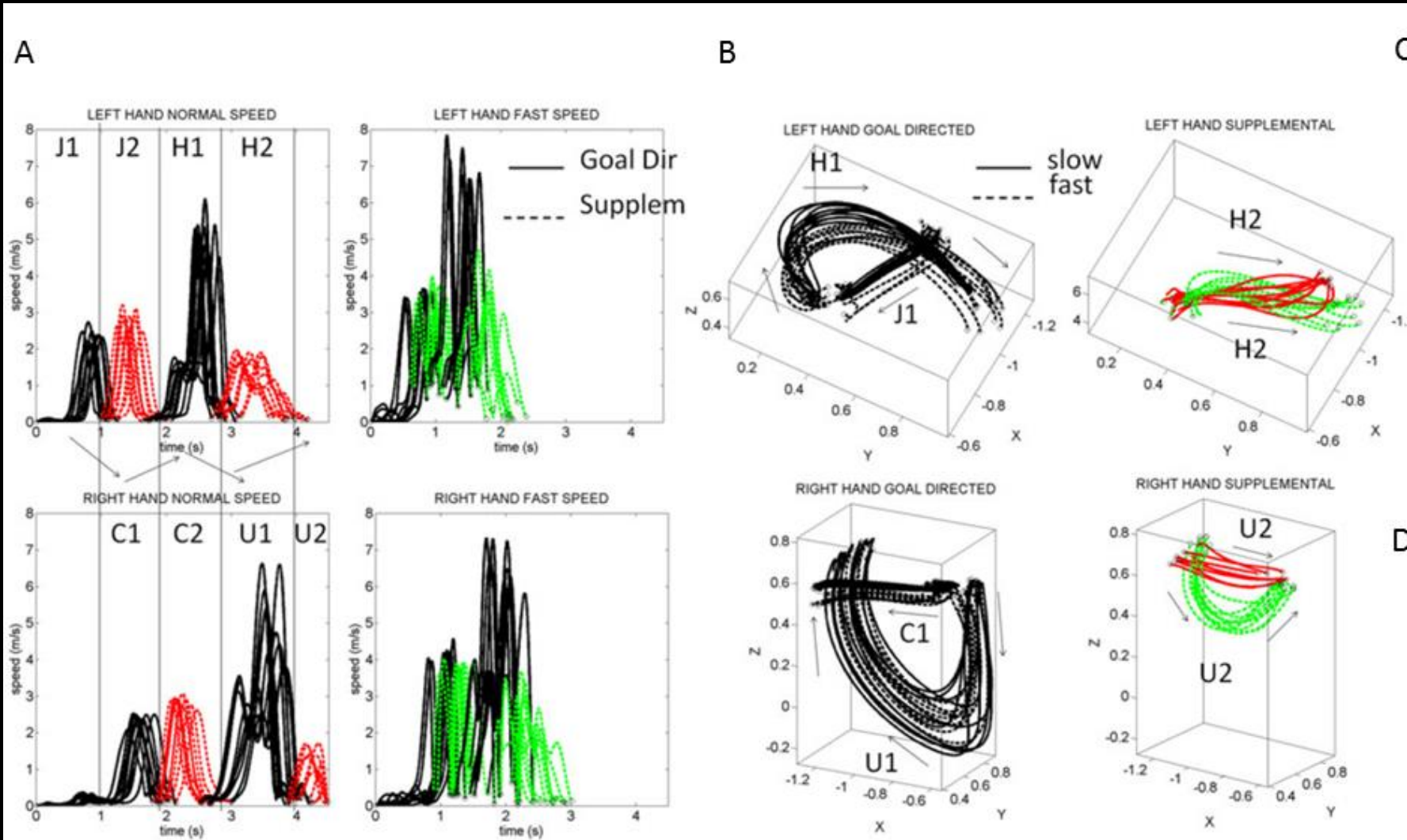
How informative is the trial by trial variability in our data set?

An expert, 9 novices from college age and one autistic adolescent

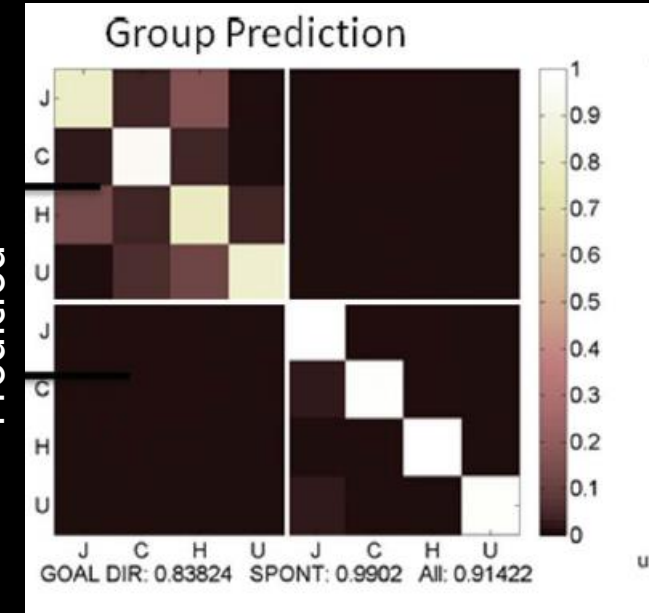
We divide the set of all trials into the “training set” and the “testing set”  
Every iteration, we “show” the training set to the algorithm but leave out the trial that we want to test

Then we measure the prediction error

# MOMENT BY MOMENT MOTOR VARIABILITY NEVER CONFUSES DELIBERATE VS CONSEQUENTIAL SEGMENTS

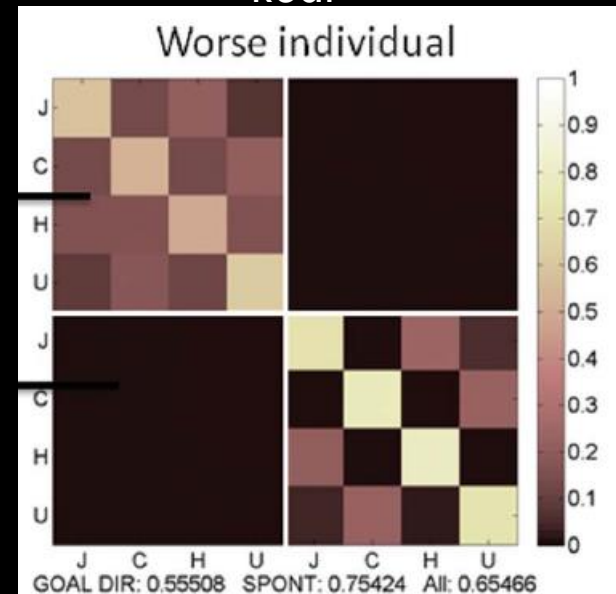


Predicted



Real

Predicted



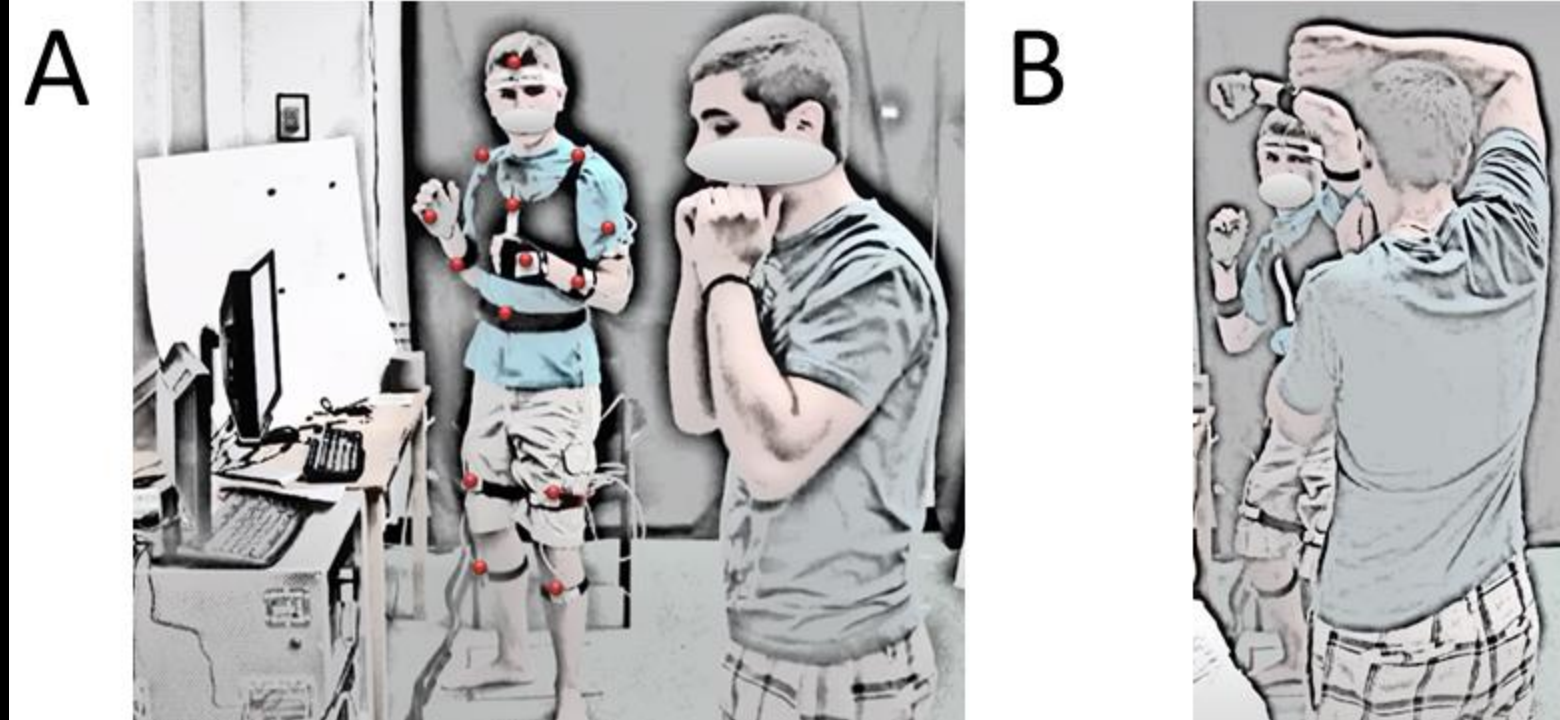
# SERENDIPITOUS DISCOVERY



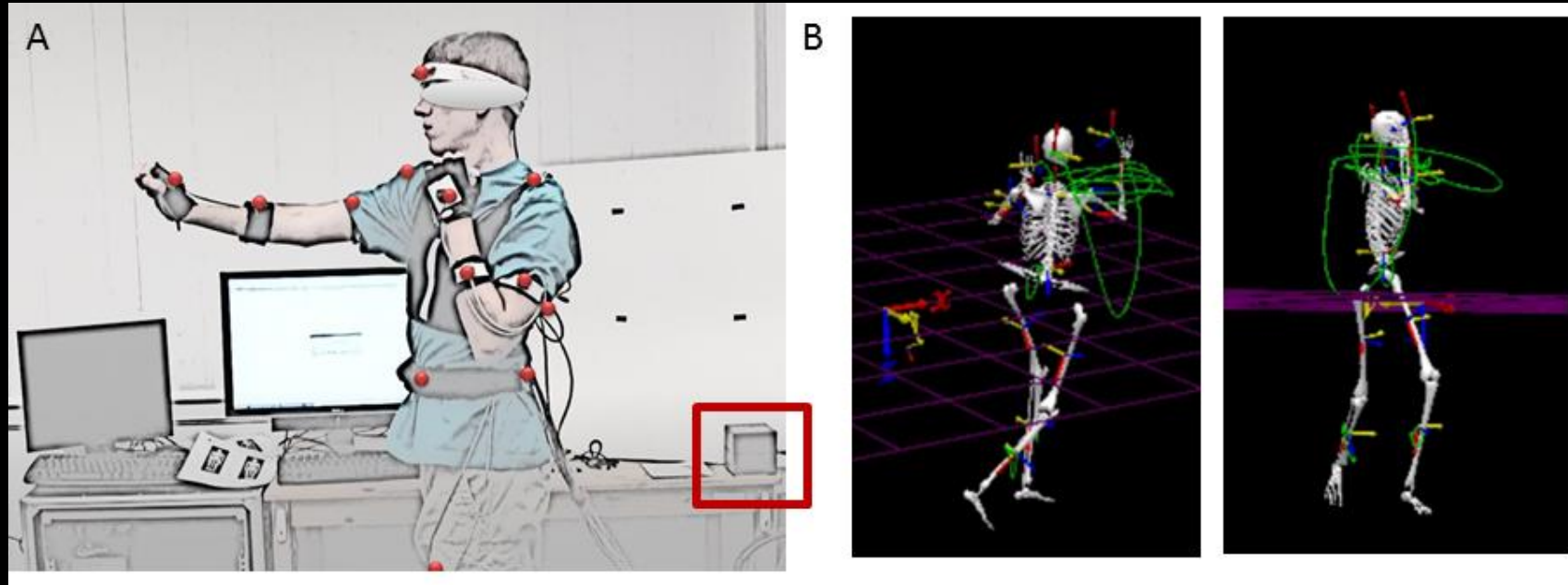
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ji1yNa0mDJ0>



# THE DISCOVERY OF EXPONENTIAL DISTRIBUTION IN HUMAN MOTIONS (AUTISM)



# LARGER DIFFERENCES IN SIGNATURES BETWEEN DELIBERATE AND SPONTANEOUS MOTIONS IN ASD

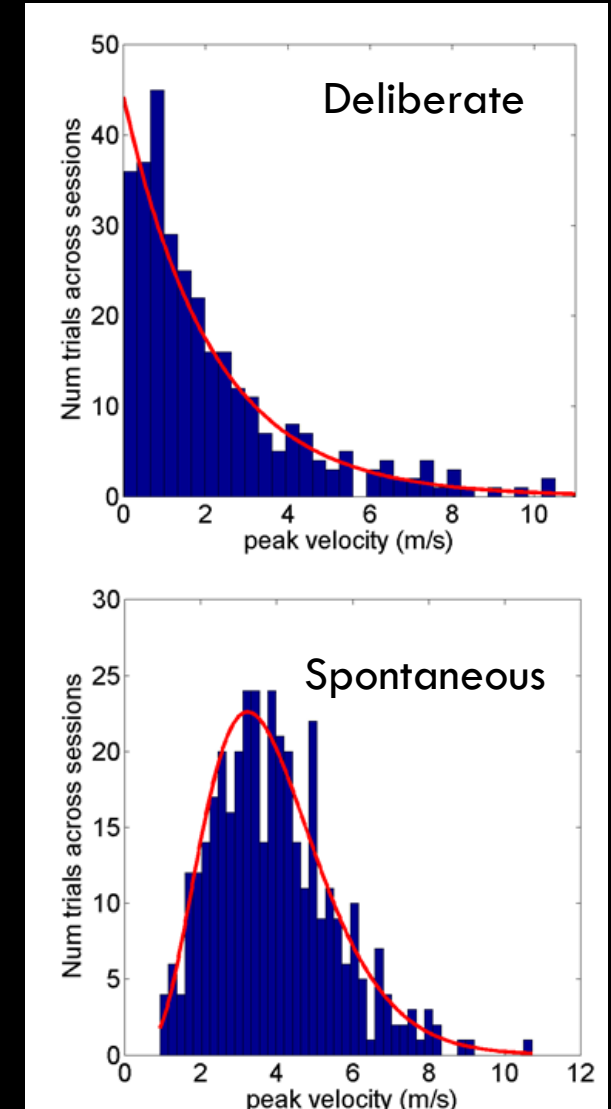
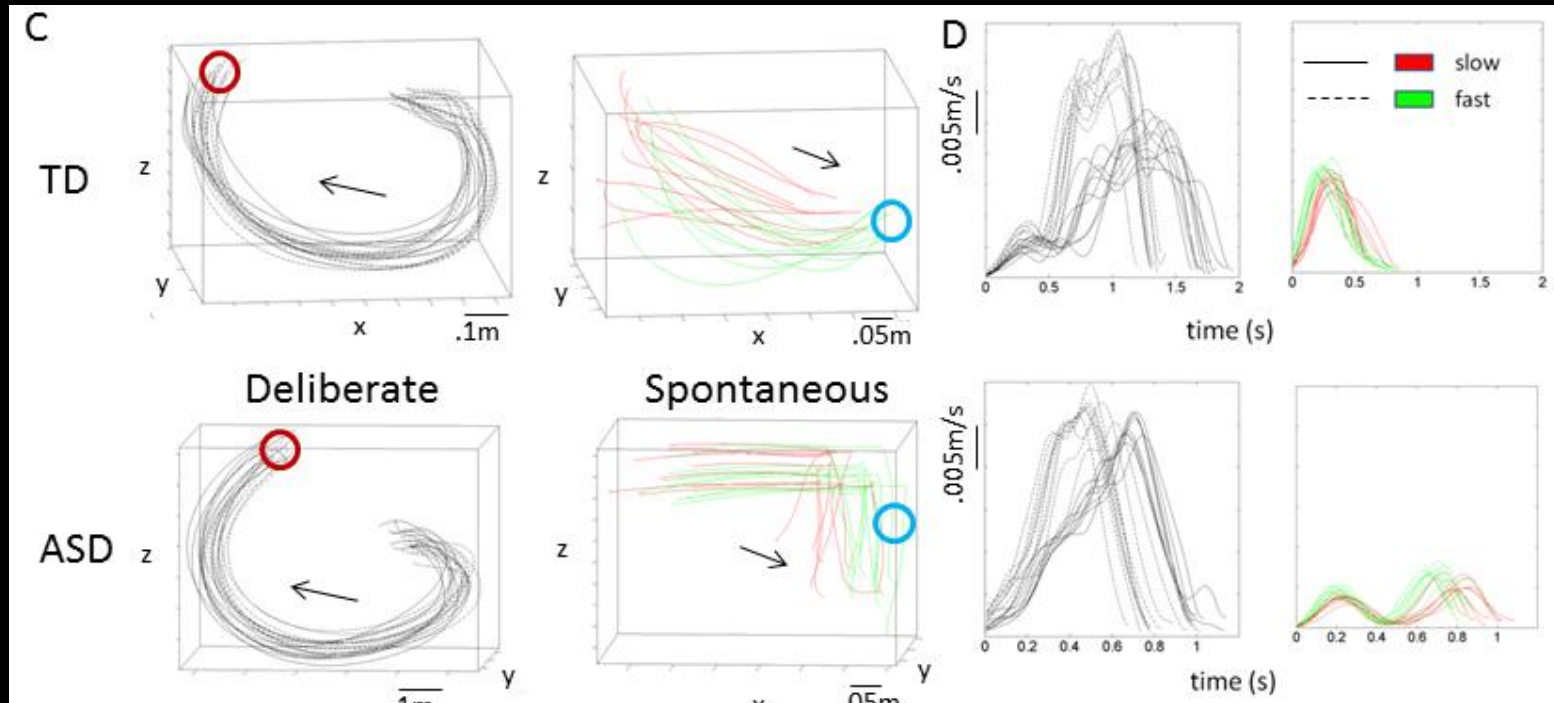


Torres EB, 2011 Neurocase

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ji1yNa0mDJ0>

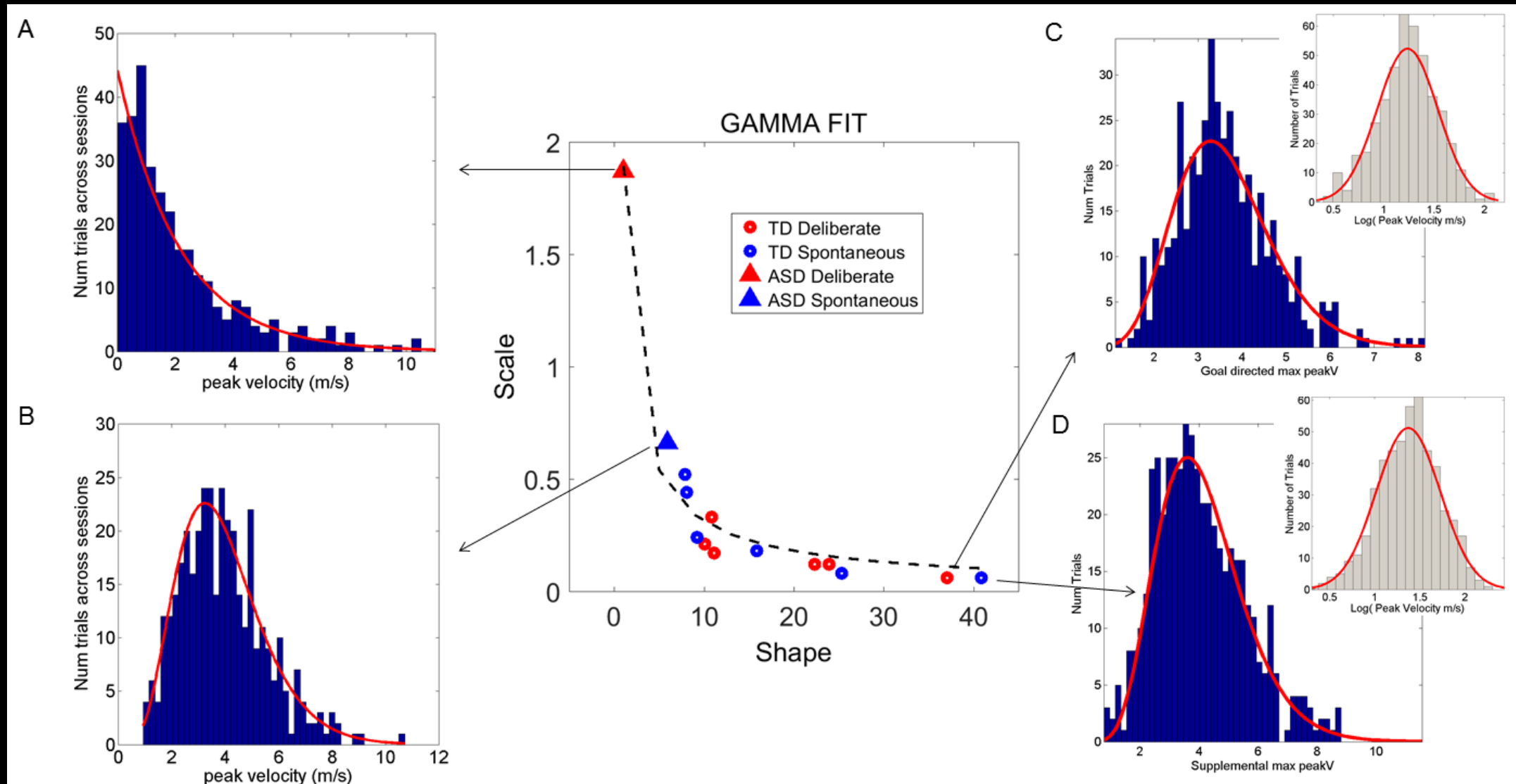
Copyright 2019, Elizabeth B Torres

# FROM SPEED TO FREQUENCY HISTOGRAM

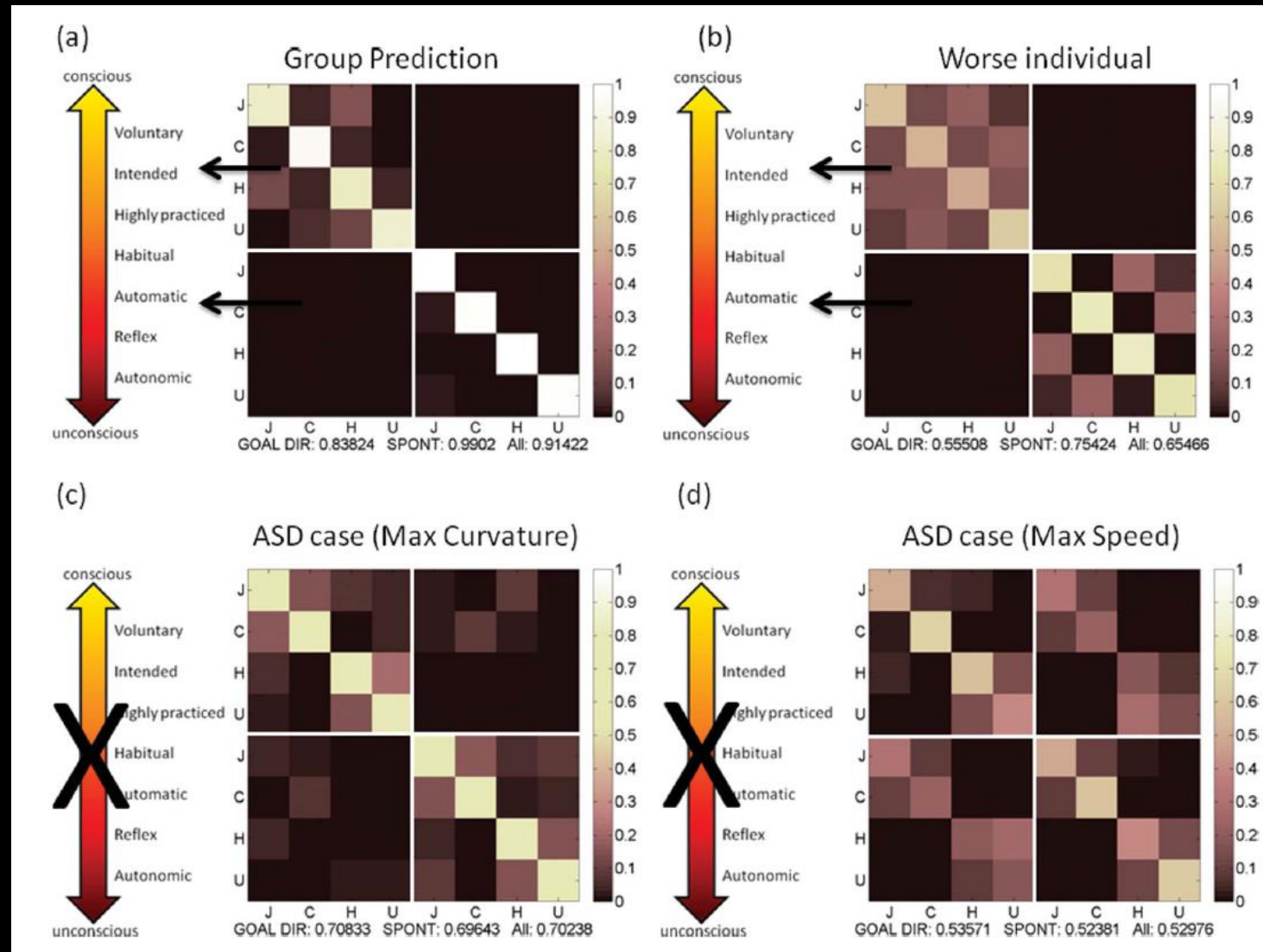




# DELIBERATE AUTISTIC MOTION SPEED DISTRIBUTES EXPONENTIALLY



# DECODING FAILS FOR THE ASD MOTOR VARIABILITY



# NEXT CLASS: CHARACTERIZING INTENT THROUGH DIFFERENT TYPES OF PROCESSES

