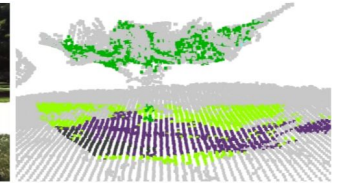
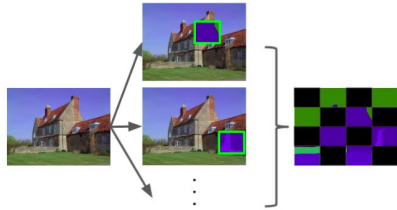
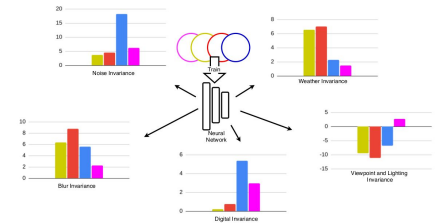


# Towards Robust Perception Systems in Real World Environments

Feb 10, 2022  
B Exam



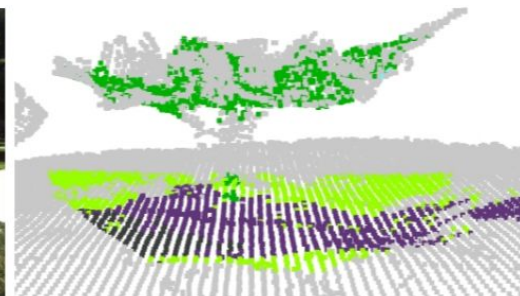
Hubert Lin



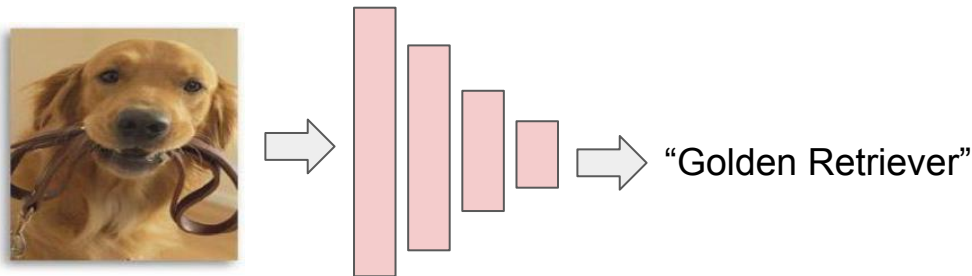
# Introduction

Visual perception systems useful for many applications:

- Robotics
- Self-driving
- Visual discovery
- Medical diagnostics
- ...



Many modern systems are based on neural networks.



# Many imperfections in real world images...



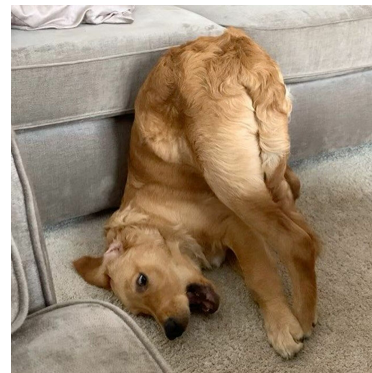
Noise



Camera  
Blur

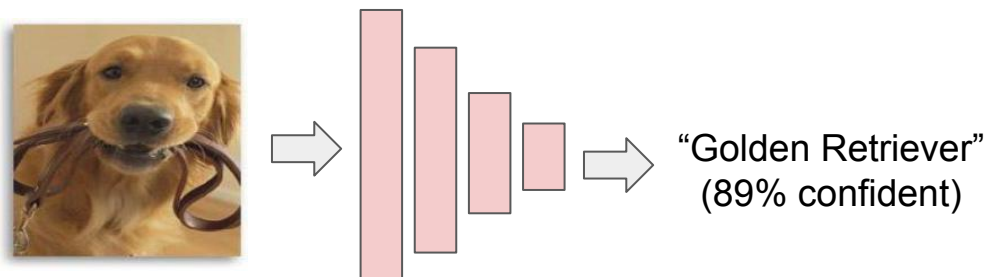


Digital  
Manipulation



Unconventional  
Viewpoint

# Effect of noisy images

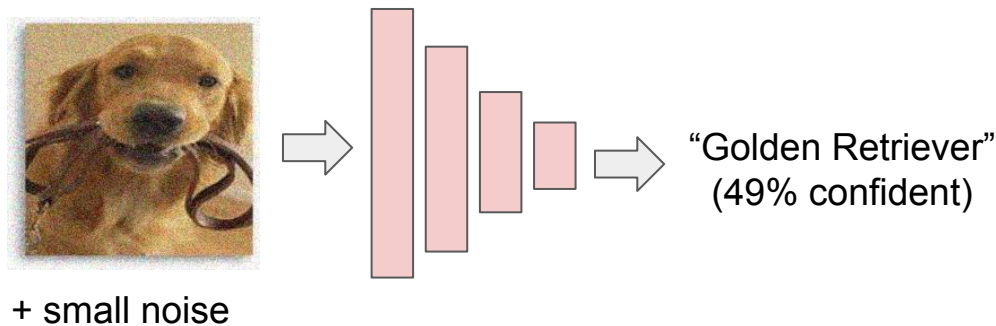


- Humans can recognize objects<sup>1</sup> and materials<sup>2</sup> in non-ideal images.
- Neural networks may struggle to perform well.

<sup>1</sup>Geirhos et al 2018, Generalisation in Humans and DNNs

<sup>2</sup>Sharan et al 2014, Accuracy and speed of material categorization in real-world images

# Effect of noisy images

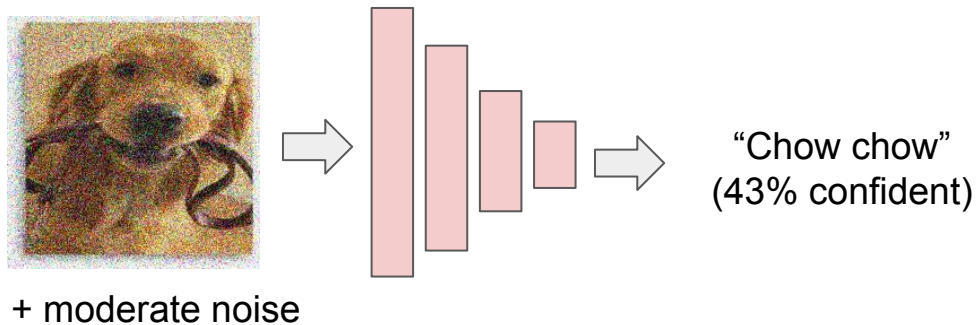


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# Effect of noisy images

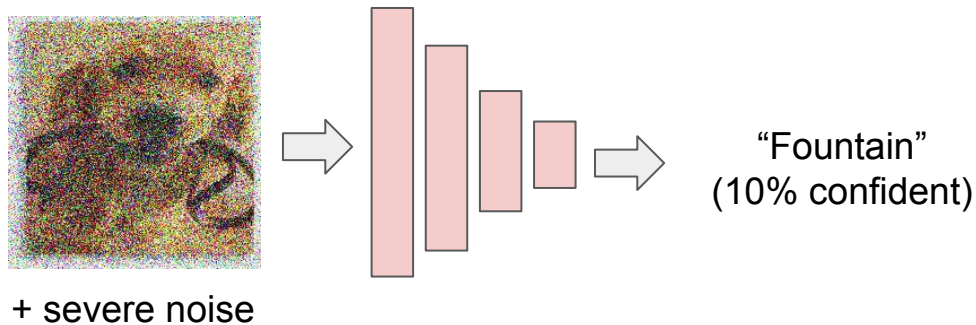


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# Effect of noisy images



- Humans can recognize objects<sup>1</sup> and materials<sup>2</sup> in non-ideal images.
- Neural networks may struggle to perform well.

<sup>1</sup>Geirhos et al 2018, Generalisation in Humans and DNNs

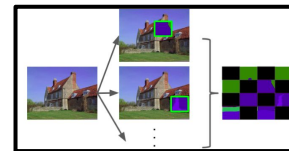
<sup>2</sup>Sharan et al 2014, Accuracy and speed of material categorization in real-world images

# Talk Outline

Many challenges in improving perception systems in real world.

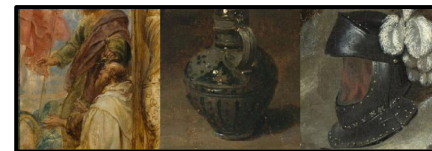
## 1. Better annotation tools.

[ICCV 2019]



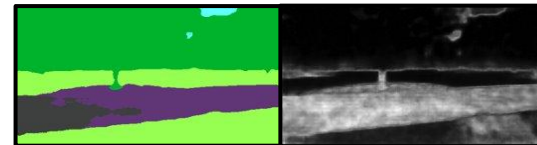
## 2. Learning robust visual invariances.

[PLOS One 2021, FAPER ICPR 2020, CVPR 2021]



## 3. Reasoning about perception uncertainties.

[ICRA 2020]



## 4. Summary.

This talk will primarily focus on **(2)**.

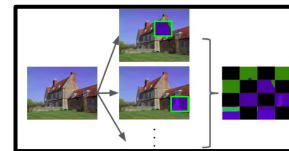


# Talk Outline

Many challenges in improving perception systems in real world.

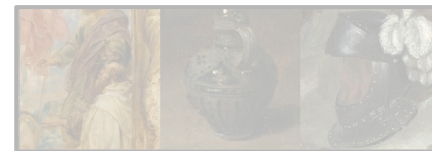
## 1. Better annotation tools.

[ICCV 2019]



## 2. Learning robust visual invariances.

[PLOS One 2021, FAPER ICPR 2020, CVPR 2021]



## 3. Reasoning about perception uncertainties.

[ICRA 2020]



## 4. Summary.

# Illustrative example

Giraffes face left in training set.



Unseen image: Giraffe?



# Need more data

One possible solution: train with more images of giraffes in different poses.

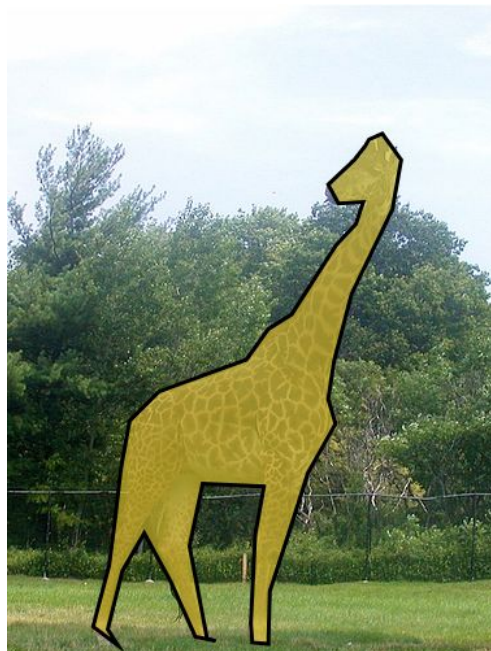


Original Dataset

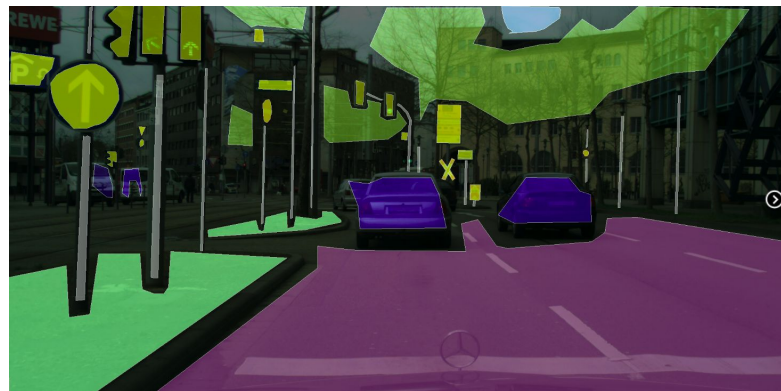
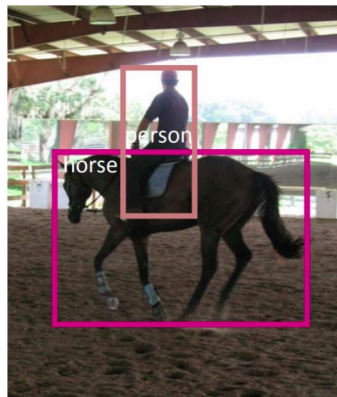
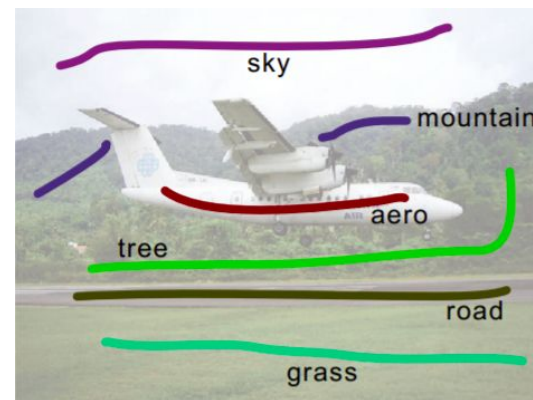
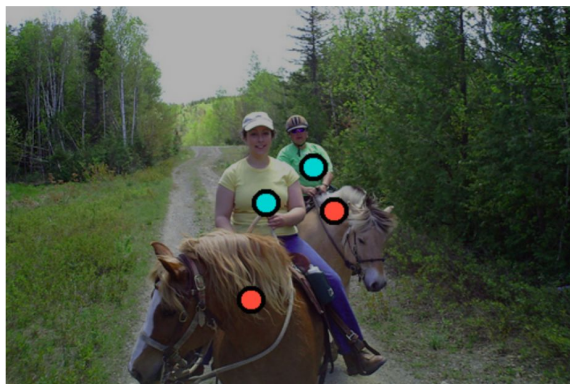


New Labeled Data

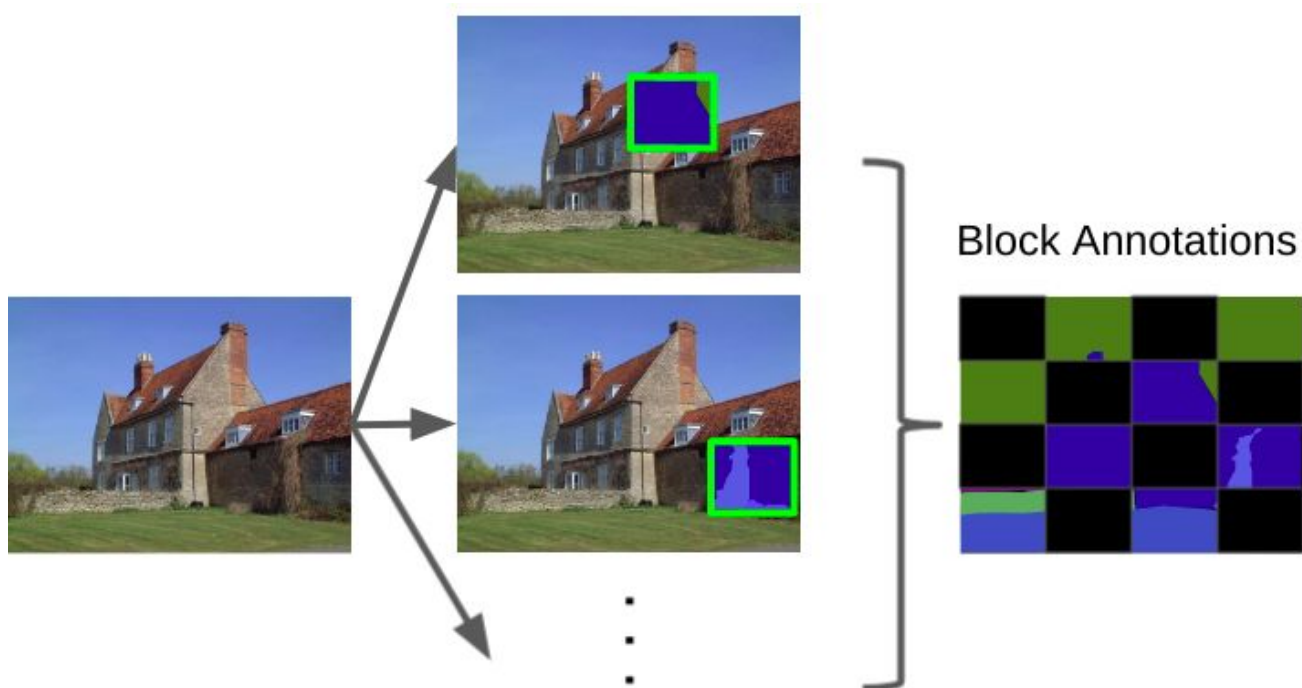
# What kind of labels are useful?



# Cheap but coarse alternatives

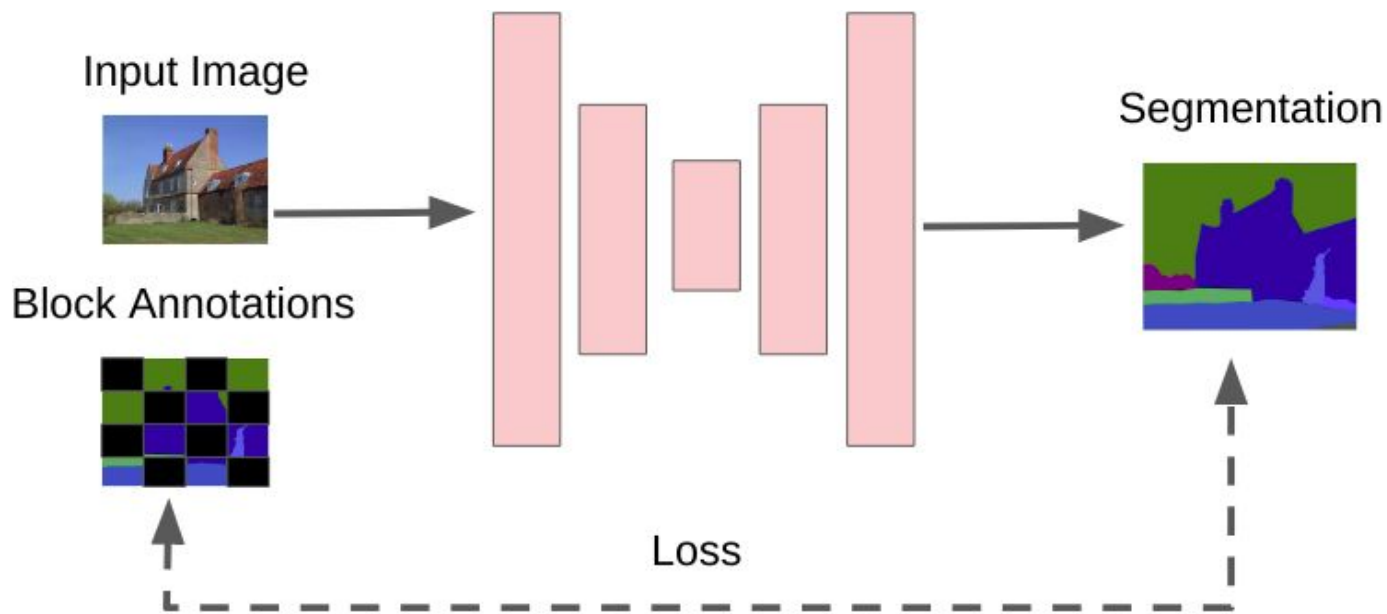


# Block Annotation



(A) Annotation

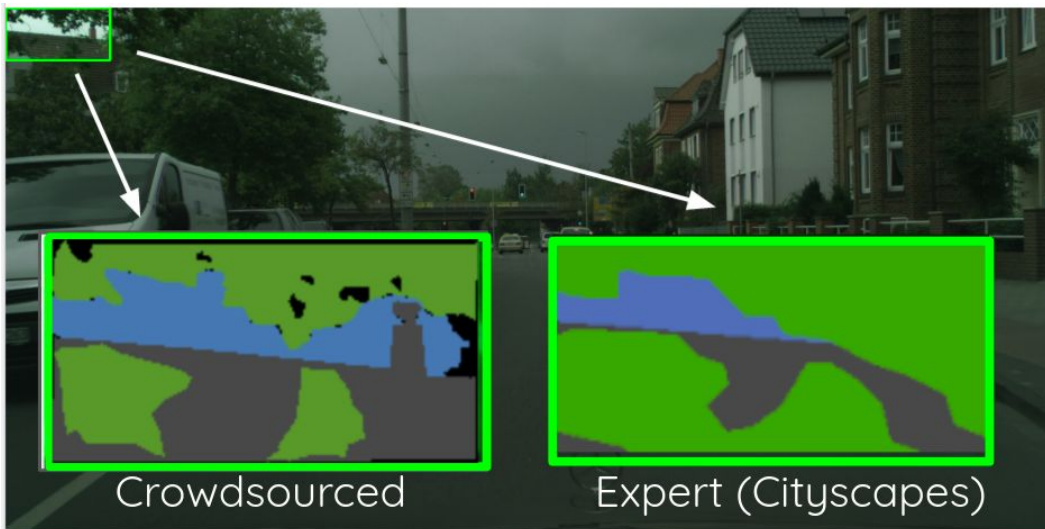
# Block Annotation



(B) Segmentation

# Key Findings: Block Annotation

Crowdworkers produce high quality annotations, and more cheaply than conventional methods.

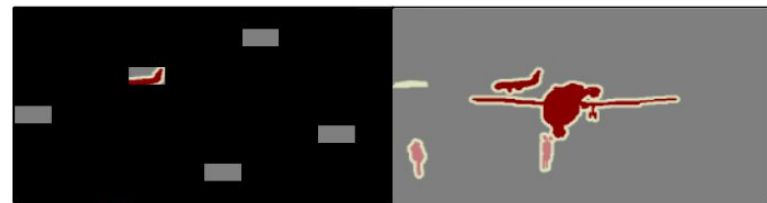




# Key Findings: Block Annotation

High performing semantic segmentation models learned – up to 97% of full supervision performance with 1/10th annotation time.

Cityscapes	<b>Ours: Block</b> (7 min)	Coarse (7 min [14])	Full Supervision (90 min [14])
mIOU (%)	<b>72.1</b>	68.8	77.7
Pascal	<b>Ours: Block</b> (25 sec)	Scribbles (25 sec [36])	<b>Full Supervision</b> (4 min [41])
mIOU (%)	<b>67.2</b>	63.1 [36]	69.6

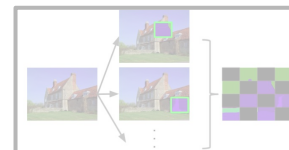


# Talk Outline

Many challenges in improving perception systems in real world.

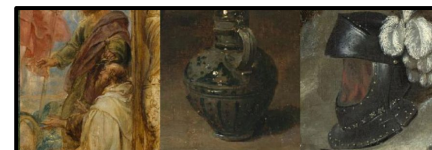
1. **Better annotation tools.**

[ICCV 2019]



2. **Learning robust visual invariances.**

[PLOS One 2021, FAPER ICPR 2020, CVPR 2021]



3. **Reasoning about perception uncertainties.**

[ICRA 2020]



4. **Summary.**

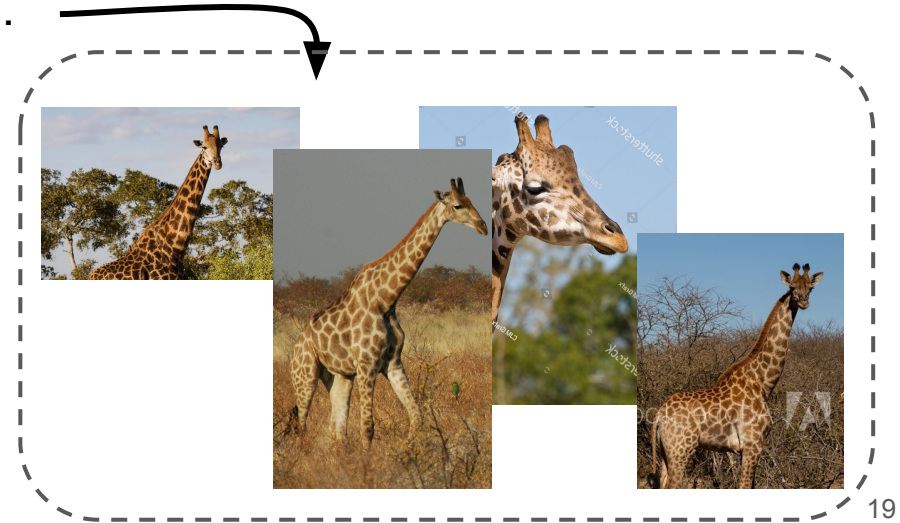
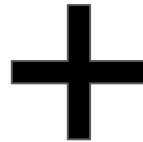
# What about synthetic data?

Problem: Giraffes always face towards left in original dataset.

- Label more data – expensive.
- Alternative? Synthetically create images+labels by applying a left-right reflection to the existing set of images.



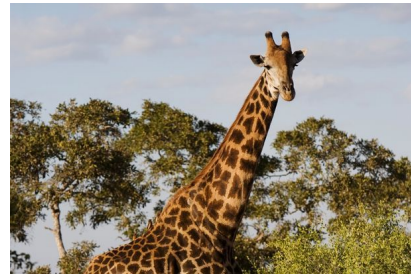
Original Dataset



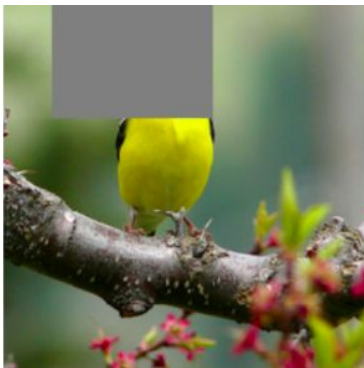
# Data Augmentation

Image transformations encourage the network to ignore some signals in the data.

- Reflected image pairs: Network will not rely on left-right orientation when classifying an animal.



# Data Augmentation



**CutOut**



**AutoAugment**



**RandAugment**



**AugMix**

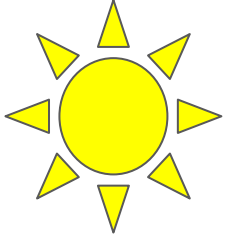


**DeepAugment**

Common goals:  
(a) Preserve semantics.  
(b) Manipulate non-robust features.



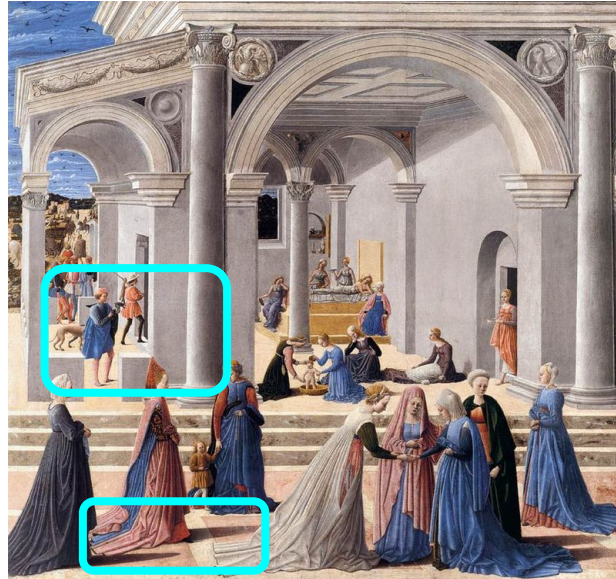
Artwork: Fra Carnevale  
"The Birth of the Virgin" 1467



Cavanagh 2005, *"The Artist as Neuroscientist"*

# Paintings as Implicit Data Augmentation

Artworks implicitly encode human visual invariances by omitting or altering unimportant details for perception.





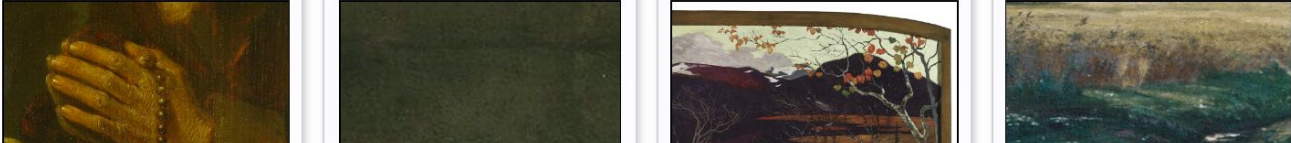
# Materials In Paintings

<https://materialsinpaintings.tudelft.nl/>

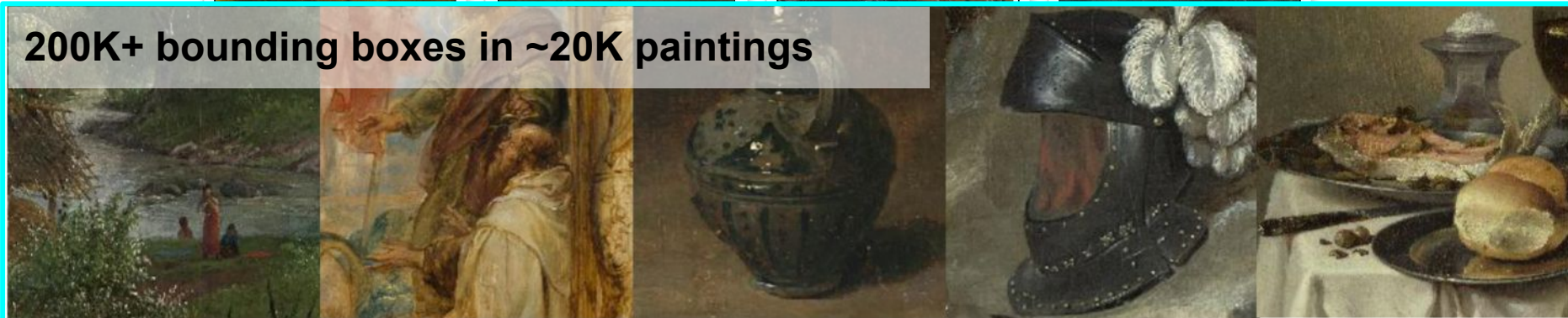
Enter an artist or title..  Search

> Advanced < 3 of 11391 >

Gerard Dou gem	1660 pearls	Asselijn, Jan liquid	1650 body of water	Helmer Osslund wood	None natural wood	Edward Gay liquid	1887 body of water
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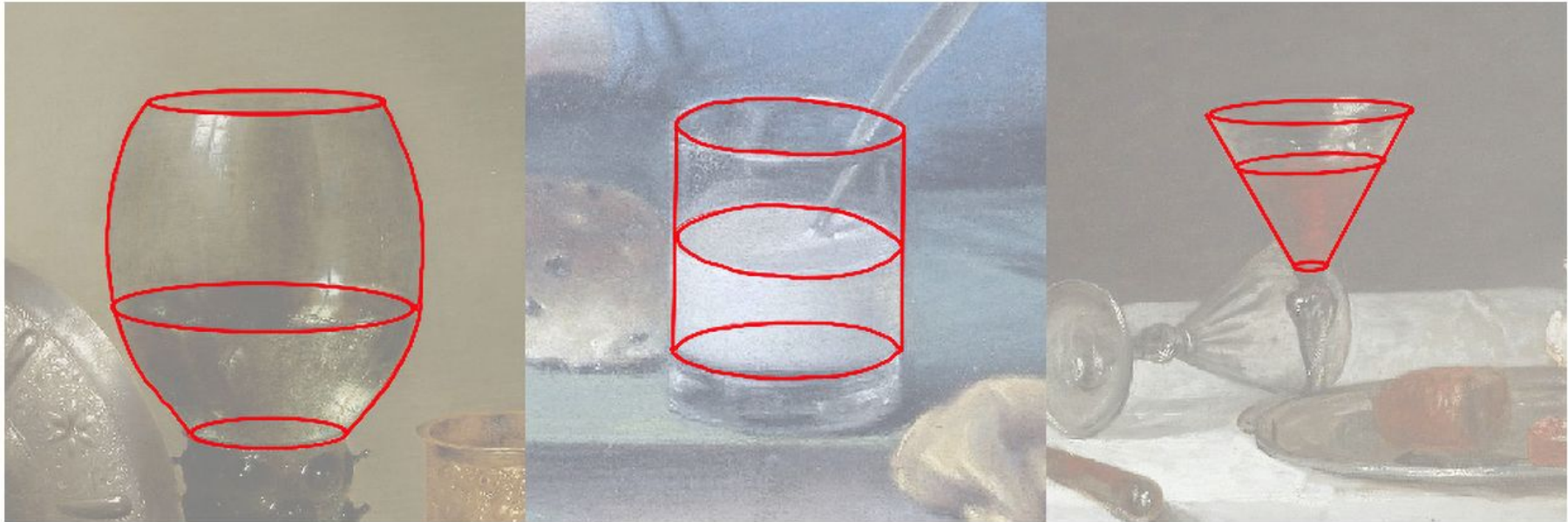


200K+ bounding boxes in ~20K paintings



# Painterly Biases

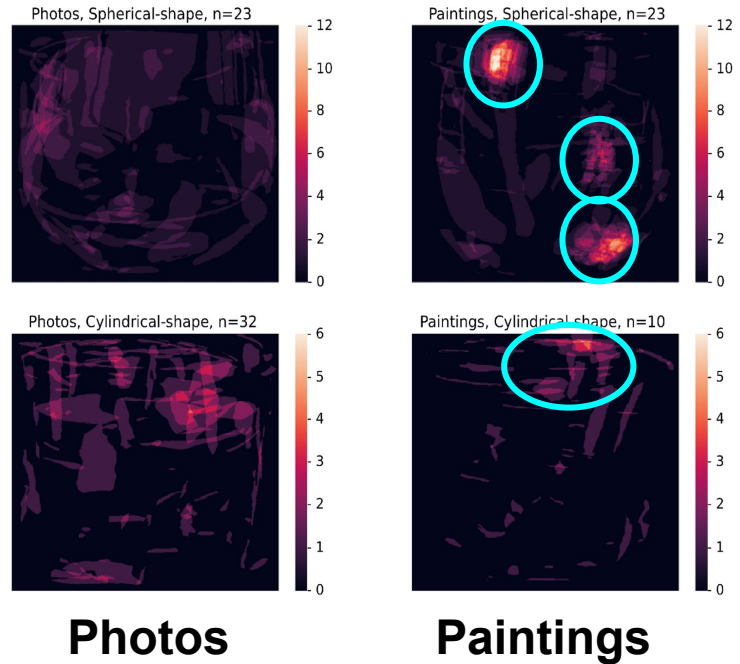
Highlights on glass cups:



# How are glass highlights depicted?

1. Paintings have more localized highlights.
2. Painting highlights are less ambiguous.
  - 50% higher agreement (recall) between participants.

## Highlight Heatmaps



# Learning From Painterly Biases

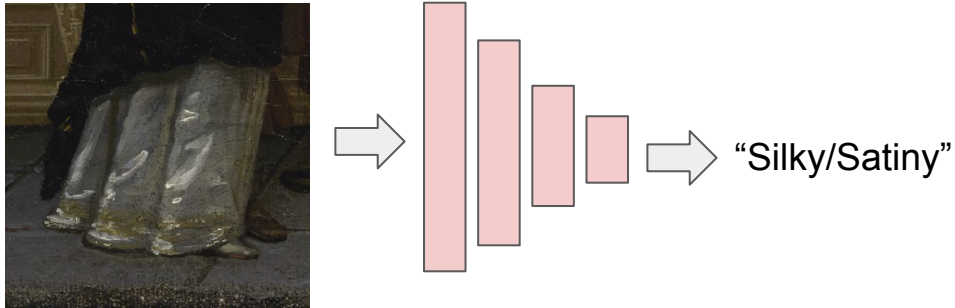
Local cues like highlights on the satin or silk fabrics are emphasized by artists.



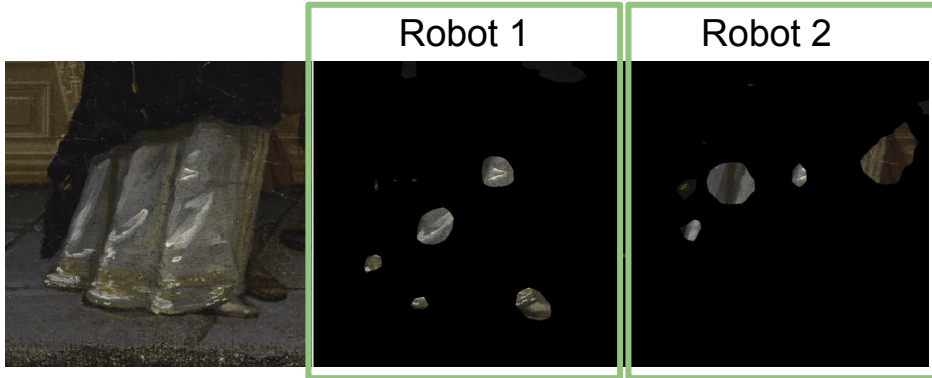
# Learning From Painterly Biases

Compare models trained on paintings or photos to distinguish satin from cotton.

- Assess human preference for cues used by models.



# Human Preferences for Cues



“Two different robots think these regions in the image look like silk/satin. Which robot do you agree with more?”

Humans are shown cues used by each classifier and prompted to select which set of cues they prefer.

# Which cues do humans prefer?

	MEAN	
Photo Classif. Preferred	44.9 ± 1.9%	...
Painting Classif. Preferred	55.1 ± 1.9%	
		Silk/Satin Photos
		48.9 ± 3.1%
		51.1 ± 3.1%

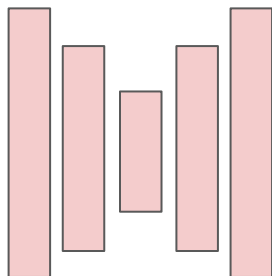
- Overall, **cues learned from paintings preferred** over cues learned from photos.
- For photos of silk/satin, **cues learned from paintings equally preferred to cues learned from photos** despite domain shifts.

# “Fake” Paintings via Style Transfer

Style transfer: methods for creating painting-like images from photos



Giraffe photo



Giraffe in the style of a  
Monet painting



# “Fake” Paintings via Style Transfer

Style transfer: methods for creating painting-like images from photos



# Learning from Paintings vs Stylized Images

Do models learn similar behaviors from paintings and stylized images?

- Does style transfer allow us to replace paintings altogether?



Painting

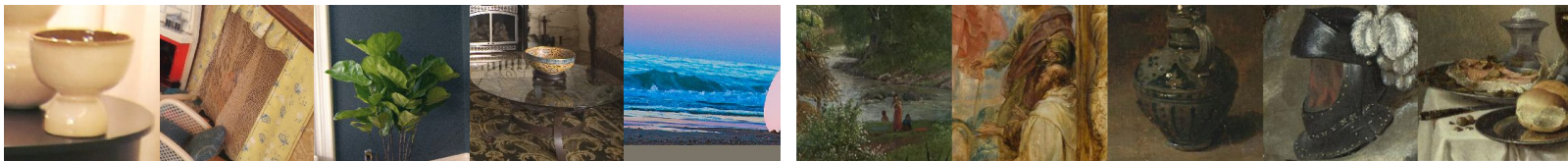


Stylized Photo

# Datasets

## Materials:

- Photographs of materials from existing datasets (MINC<sup>1</sup>, COCO<sup>2</sup>)
- Paintings of materials from Materials in Paintings (MIP<sup>3</sup>)



## Objects:

- Existing dataset of photos, paintings, cartoons, and sketches (PACS<sup>4</sup>).



# Evaluating Model Behavior

Interested in model behavior in real-world settings with imperfect images.

- High accuracy on these images = model is more “robust”



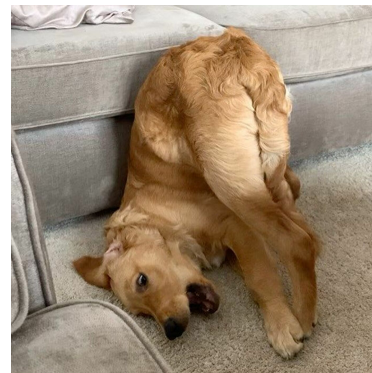
Noise



Camera  
Blur



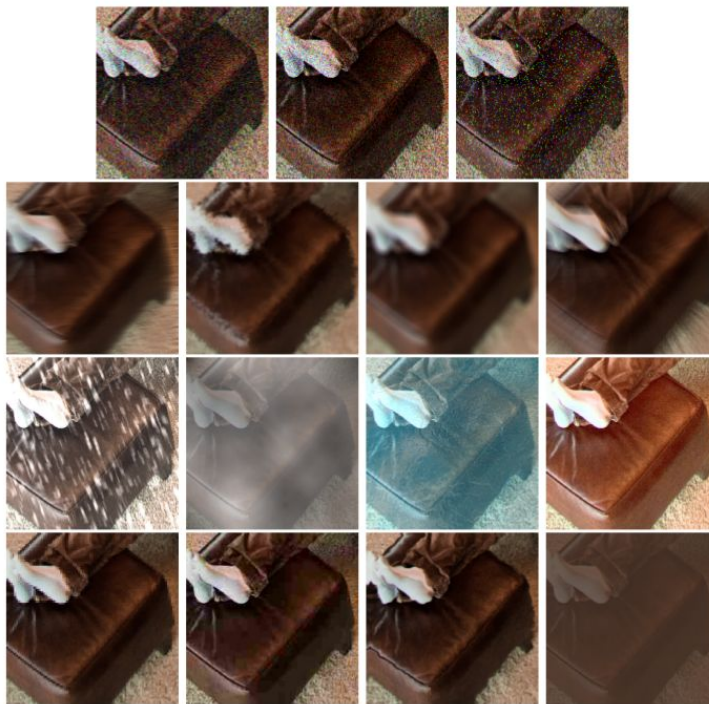
Digital  
Manipulation



Unconventional  
Viewpoint

# Evaluating Model Behavior

Accuracy with respect to **common image corruptions**:



Noise

Blur

Weather

Digital

# Evaluating Model Behavior

Accuracy with respect to **out-of-distribution photos** (different viewpoint, lighting):

Materials → FMD<sup>1</sup>



PACS → Subset of YFCC100M<sup>2</sup>

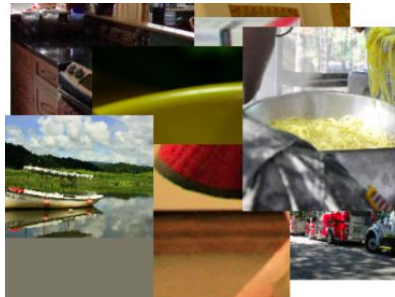


<sup>1</sup> Sharan et al 2014; <sup>2</sup> Thomee et al 2015

# Research Questions

1. Does learning from paintings improve model robustness?
2. Does learning from stylized images improve model robustness?
3. How do models trained on paintings differ from models trained on stylized images?

# Experiment Setup



Photos

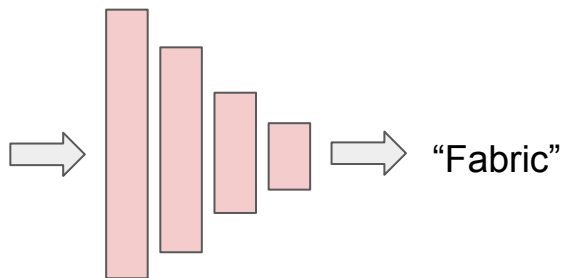
+



Paintings



Stylized Images



Standard ResNet18

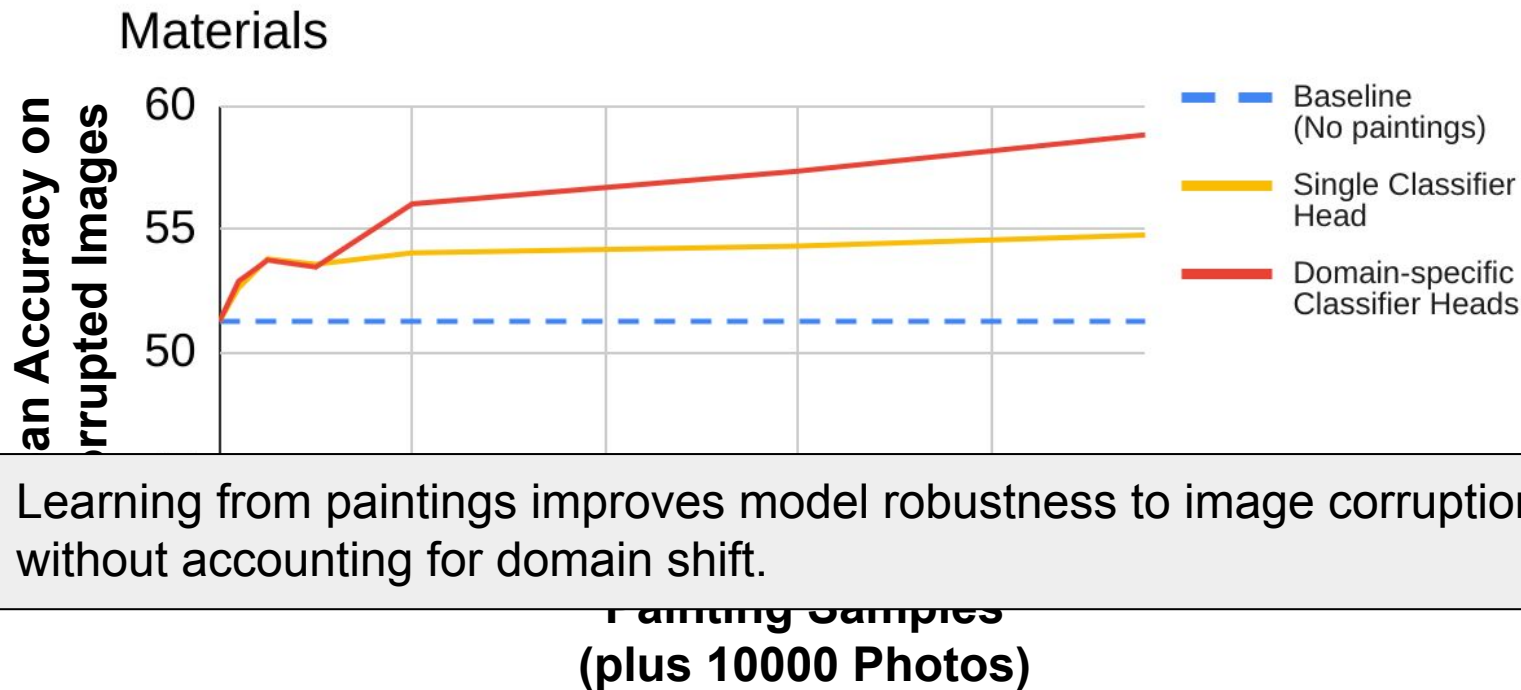
“Fabric”



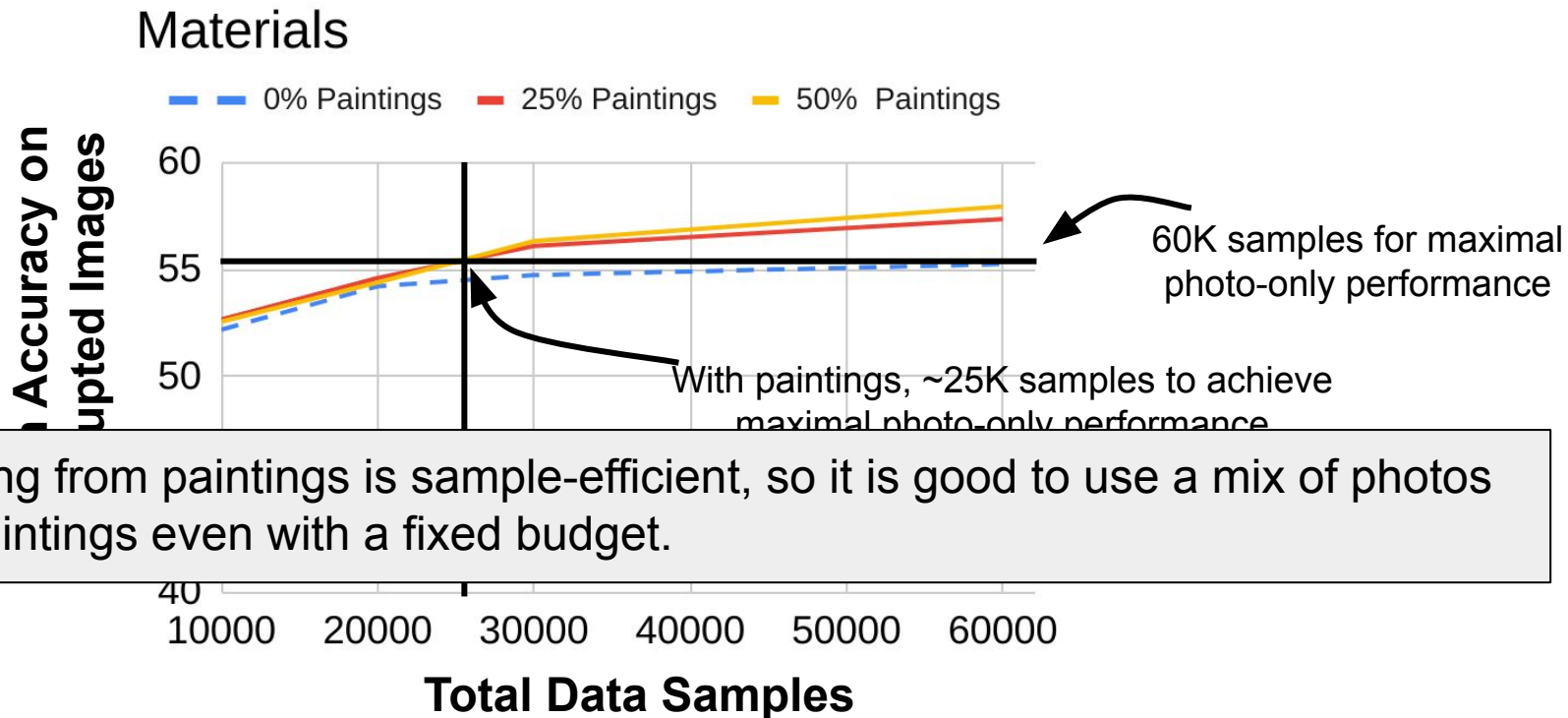
# Research Questions

1. Does learning from paintings improve model robustness?

# Does learning from paintings improve robustness?

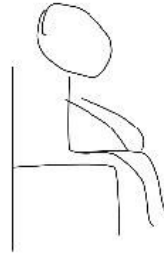


# Is learning from paintings data-efficient?



# Can sketches and cartoons work too?

Other artwork like sketches and cartoons are also perceptually meaningful.



# Can sketches and cartoons work too?

Training Data (# Samples)	Mean Corruption Acc (%)
<i>Materials</i>	
Photo (30K)	54.73±0.25
Photo + <b>Painting</b> (15K + 15K)	<b>56.31±0.27 (+)</b>
<i>PACS</i>	
Photo (1500)	76.16±0.34
Photo + <b>Painting</b> (750 + 750)	<b>79.41±0.55 (+)</b>
Photo + Cartoon (750 + 750)	75.38±0.36 (-)
Photo + Sketch (750 + 750)	73.85±0.39 (-)
<i>DomainNet [28]</i>	
Photo (120K)	36.59±0.12
Photo + <b>Painting</b> (90K + 30K)	<b>39.00±0.14 (+)</b>
Photo + Sketch (90K + 30K)	37.57±0.22 (+)
Photo + Infograph (90K + 30K)	34.00±0.18 (-)
<i>VisDA [29]</i>	
Photo (30K)	<b>65.97±0.33</b>
Photo + Rendering (15K + 15K)	63.90±0.21 (-)

Paintings are uniquely useful due to their balance of realism and abstraction.

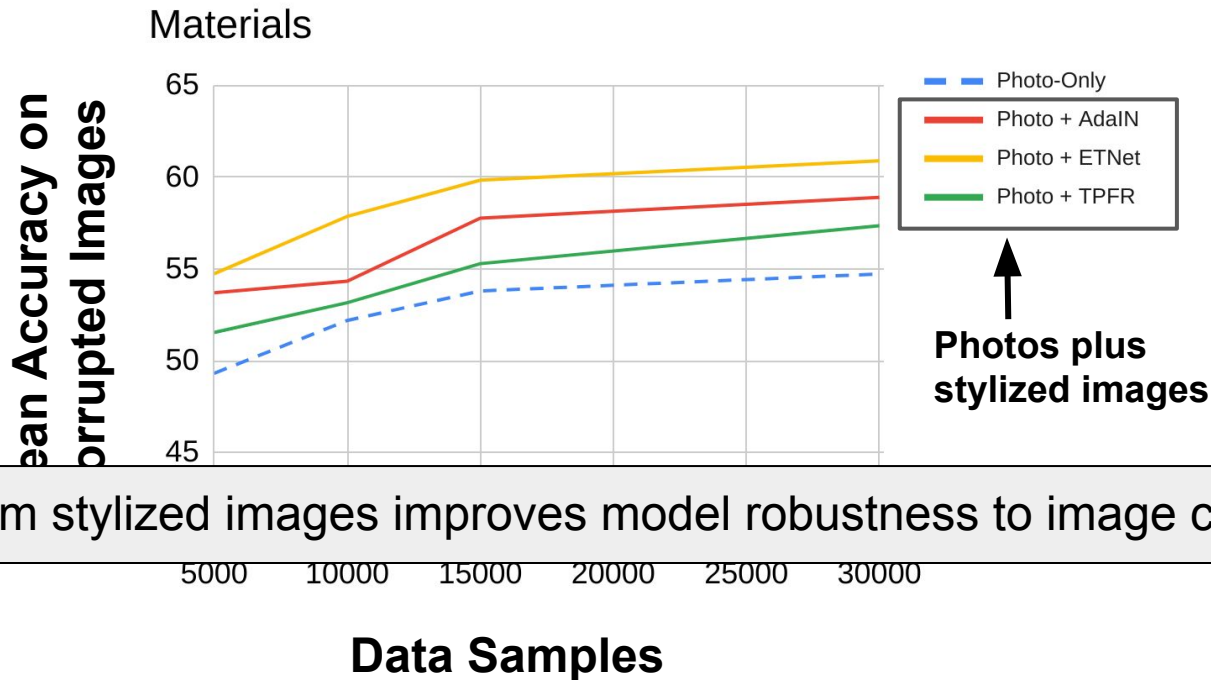
# Research Questions

1. Does learning from paintings improve model robustness?
  - YES – improves robustness to image corruptions.
  - Cost-effective compared to only photos.
  - More abstract art forms do not enable such improvements.

# Research Questions

1. Does learning from paintings improve model robustness?
  - YES – improves robustness to image corruptions.
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2. Does learning from stylized images improve model robustness?

# Does learning from stylized images improve robustness?





# Do stylized images need painting styles?

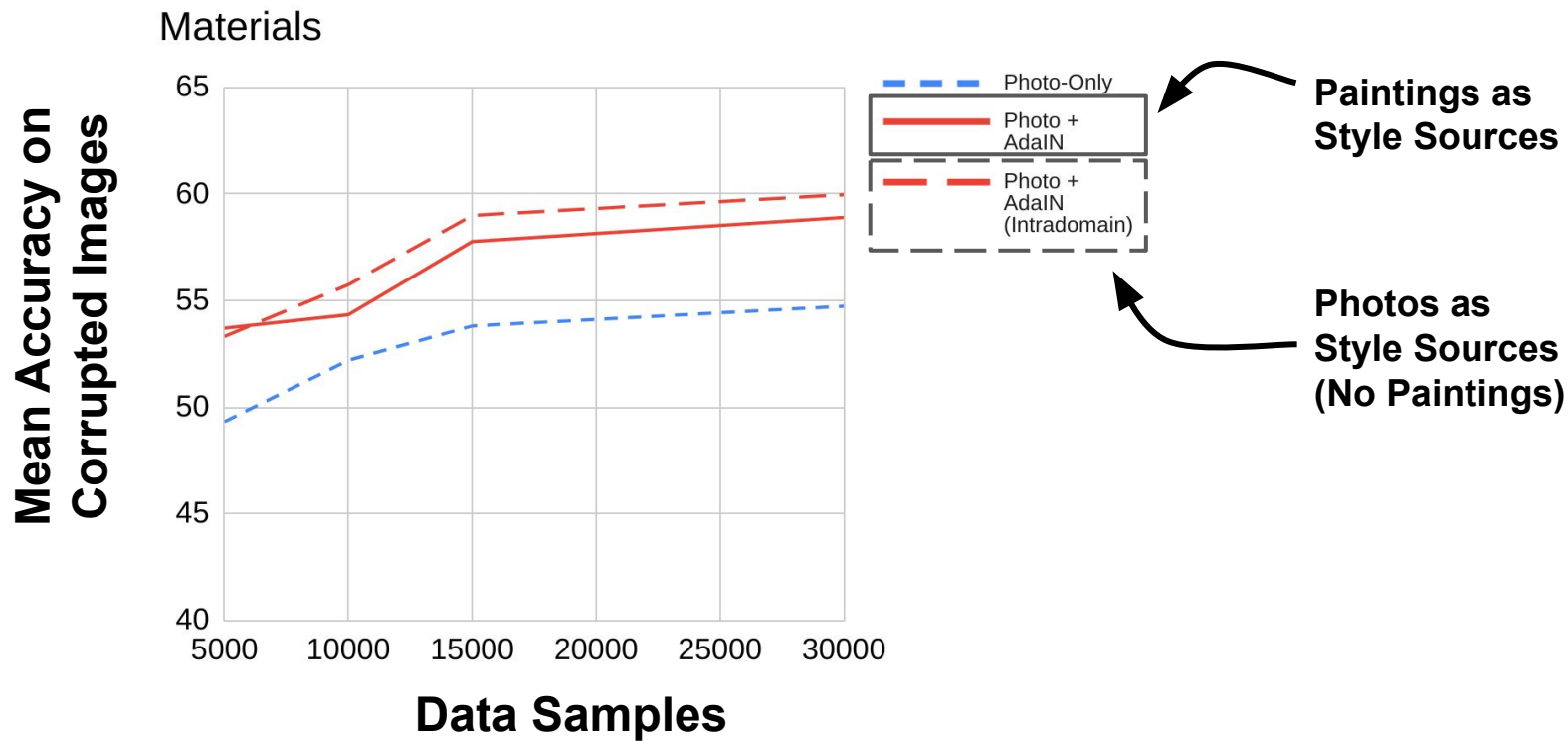
Arbitrary style transfer applies style from a source image to a target image.

- Do style source images need to be paintings?

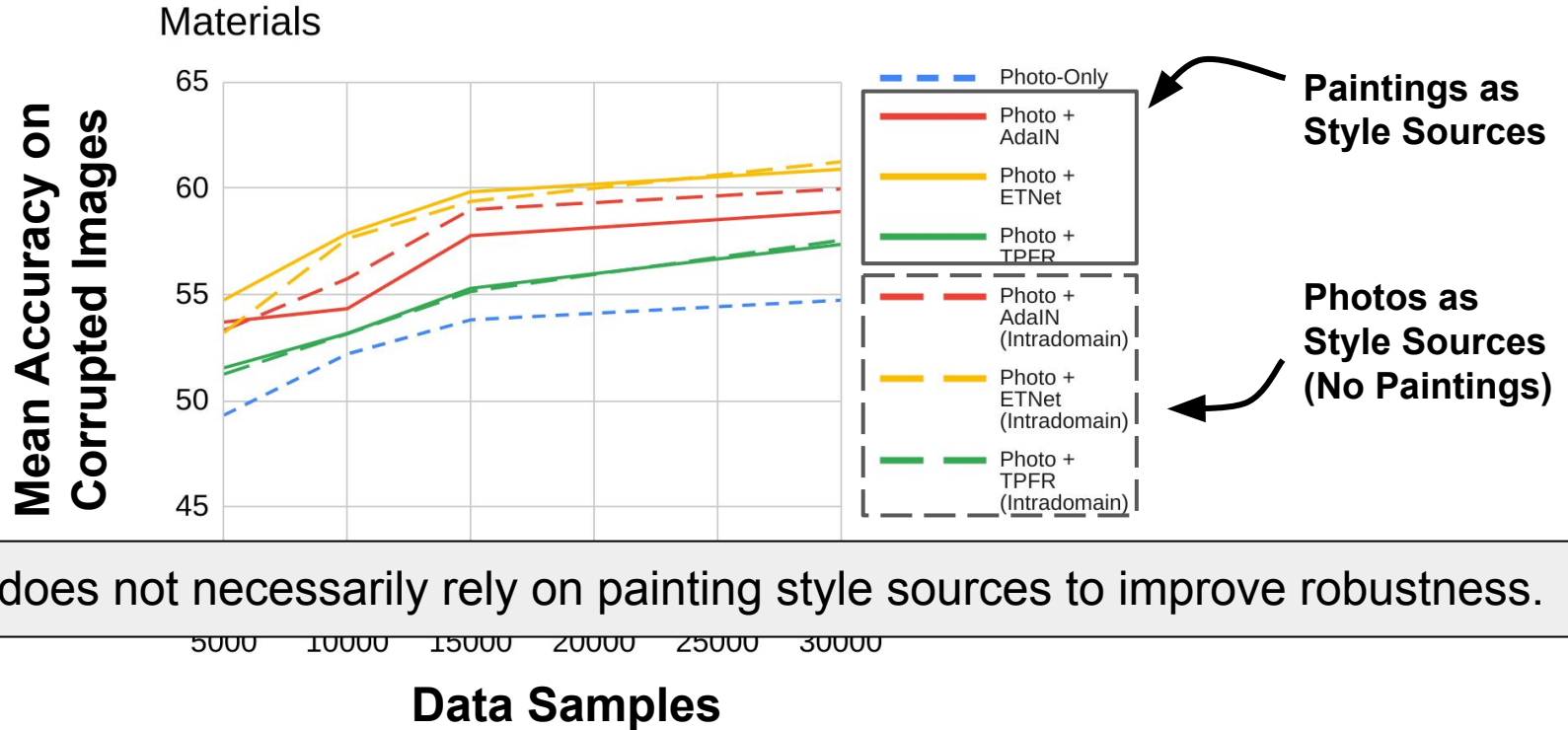


**TOP:** Photos stylized by paintings. **BOTTOM:** Photos stylized by photos.

# Do stylized images need painting styles?



# Do stylized images need painting styles?



Stylization does not necessarily rely on painting style sources to improve robustness.

# Research Questions

1. Does learning from paintings improve model robustness?
  - YES – improves robustness to image corruptions.
  - Cost-effective compared to only photos.
  - More abstract art forms do not enable such improvements.
2. Does learning from stylized images improve model robustness?
  - YES – improves robustness to image corruptions.
  - Does not necessarily require painting styles.



# Research Questions

1. Does learning from paintings improve model robustness?
  - YES – improves robustness to image corruptions.
  - Cost-effective compared to only photos.
  - More abstract art forms do not enable such improvements.
2. Does learning from stylized images improve model robustness?
  - YES – improves robustness to image corruptions.
  - Does not necessarily require painting styles.
3. How do models trained on paintings differ from models trained on stylized images?



# How do paintings and stylized images differ?

<b>Method</b>	<b>Accuracy (Image Corruptions)</b>	<b>Accuracy (OOD Photos)</b>
<i>Materials (30K samples / domain)</i>		
Photos-only	54.73±0.25	41.33±0.62
Photos + Stylization		
Photos + Paintings		
<i>PACS (1.5K samples / domain)</i>		
Photos-only	76.16±0.34	82.57±0.00
Photos + Stylization		
Photos + Paintings		

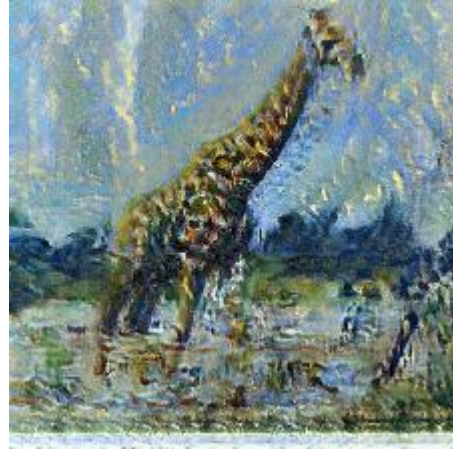
# How do paintings and stylized images differ?

Method	Accuracy (Image Corruptions)	Accuracy (OOD Photos)
<i>Materials (30K samples / domain)</i>		
Photos-only	54.73±0.25	41.33±0.62
Photos + Stylization	<b>62.67±0.03</b> 	34.54±0.91 
Photos + Paintings		
<i>PACS (1.5K samples / domain)</i>		

Stylization improves robustness to image corruptions, but hurts view generalization.

Photos + Stylization	<b>87.27±0.10</b> 	77.43±0.84 
Photos + Paintings		





Stylized images have diverse textures,  
but same background contexts and views



**Diverse textures:** helps against image corruptions  
**Same background and views:** hurts against new views



# How do paintings and stylized images differ?

Method	Accuracy (Image Corruptions)	Accuracy (OOD Photos)
<i>Materials (30K samples / domain)</i>		
Photos-only	54.73±0.25	41.33±0.62
Photos + Stylization	<b>62.67±0.03</b>	34.54±0.91
Photos + Paintings	57.92±0.09 	<b>43.92±0.47</b> 
<i>PACS (1.5K samples / domain)</i>		
Paintings improve robustness to both image corruptions and novel views.		
Photos + Stylization	<b>87.27±0.10</b>	77.43±0.84
Photos + Paintings	79.65±0.49 	<b>85.43±0.70</b> 

Paintings have diverse textures,  
and have ambiguous backgrounds



**Diverse textures:** helps against image corruptions.

**Ambiguous background, focused on foreground:** helps against new views.

# Why stylization > paintings against image noise?

Similar textures, but stylization much better.

Reasons?

1. Corrupted images are share similar background and views to training; model uses these features.
2. Invisible high frequency textures?

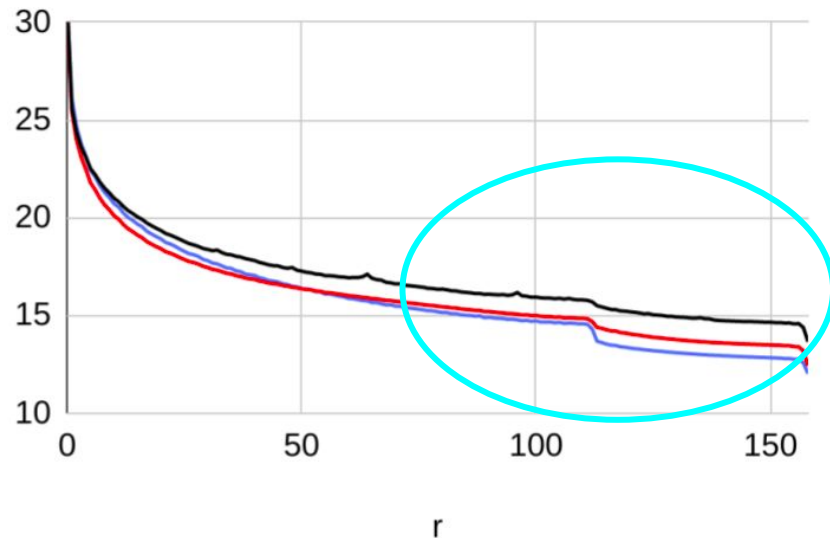
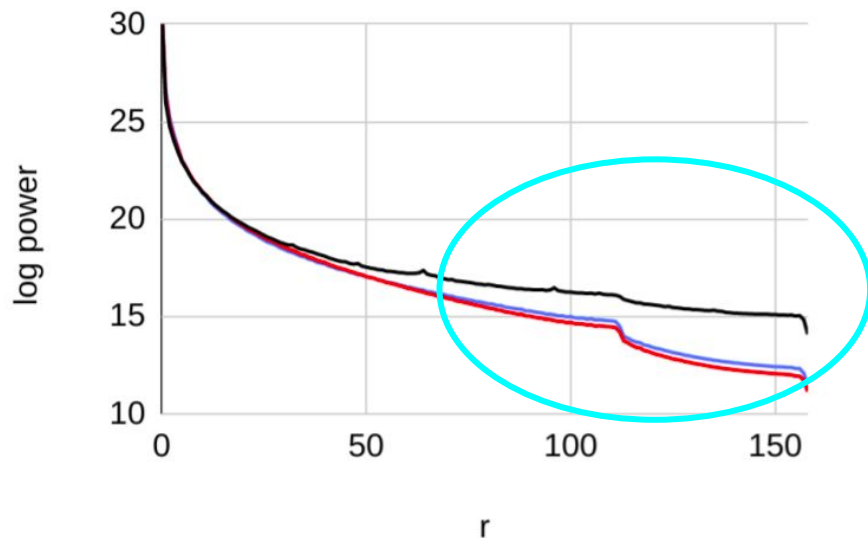
Method	Accuracy (Image Corruptions)
<i>Materials (30K samples / domain)</i>	
Photos-only	54.73±0.25
Photos + Stylization	<b>62.67±0.03</b>
Photos + Paintings	57.92±0.09
<i>PACS (1.5K samples / domain)</i>	
Photos-only	76.16±0.34
Photos + Stylization	<b>87.27±0.10</b>
Photos + Paintings	79.65±0.49

# Why stylization > paintings against image noise?

## Image Power Spectrum

PACS

Materials



**BLACK:** Stylized Images. **RED:** Paintings. **BLUE:** Photos.

Stylized images contain larger magnitude high frequency components.

# Why stylization > paintings against image noise?






**Original Image**



**Low Frequency  
Only**



# Why stylization > paintings against image noise?





Method	Accuracy (Images with Noise)	
	<i>Materials</i> (30K samples / domain)	<i>PACS</i> (1.5K samples / domain)
Photos + Stylization	61.87±0.16	85.98±0.56
<b>Photos + Stylization (Low Freq. Images)</b>	45.82±1.36  	77.55±2.60  
Photos + Paintings	49.82±0.56	68.83±0.83
<b>Photos + Paintings (Low Freq. Images)</b>	44.95±0.66 	71.16±1.31

Stylized images contain imperceptible high-frequency signals that greatly improve noise robustness.

# Are paintings and stylized images complementary?







Method	Accuracy (Image Corruptions + OOD Photos)	
	<i>Materials</i> (30K samples / domain)	<i>PACS</i> (1.5K samples / domain)
Photos-only	48.03±0.21	79.37±0.17
Photos + Stylization		
Photos + Paintings		
Photos + Stylization + Paintings		

# Are paintings and stylized images complementary?

Method	Accuracy (Image Corruptions + OOD Photos)	
	<i>Materials</i> (30K samples / domain)	<i>PACS</i> (1.5K samples / domain)
Photos-only	48.03±0.21	79.37±0.17
Photos + Stylization	48.56±0.45 	82.35±0.37 
Photos + Paintings	50.92±0.22 	82.54±0.59 
Photos + Stylization + Paintings		



# Are paintings and stylized images complementary?

Method	Accuracy (Image Corruptions + OOD Photos)	
	<i>Materials</i> (30K samples / domain)	<i>PACS</i> (1.5K samples / domain)
Photos-only	48.03±0.21	79.37±0.17
Photos + Stylization	48.56±0.45 	82.35±0.37 
Photos + Paintings	50.92±0.22 	82.54±0.59 
Photos + Stylization + Paintings	<b>51.49±0.69</b> 	<b>85.42±0.18</b> 

Models learn complementary invariances from paintings and stylization.

# Research Questions

1. Does learning from stylized images improve model robustness?
  - YES – improves robustness to image corruptions.
  - Does not necessarily require painting styles.
2. Does learning from paintings improve model robustness?
  - YES – improves robustness to image corruptions.
  - Cost-effective compared to only photos.
  - More abstract art forms do not enable such improvements.
3. How do models trained on paintings differ from models trained on stylized images?
  - Stylized images greatly improve robustness to corruptions, but hurts generalization to new views. Paintings improve robustness to both.
  - Stylized images contain imperceptible noise that improve robustness.

# Key Findings: Learning Robust Invariances from Paintings

How can paintings help our perception models?

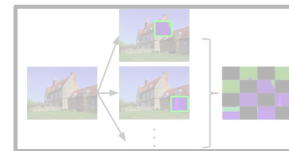
1. Artists emphasize cues like highlights to help viewers understand scenes.
2. Models trained on paintings may learn to use more interpretable cues.
3. Models trained on paintings are robust to image corruptions and novel views.
4. “Fake” paintings produced by style transfer greatly strengthen model robustness to noise while harming generalization to novel views.
5. Learning from both paintings and stylized images allow models to learn useful complementary invariances that boost robustness overall.

# Talk Outline

Many challenges in improving perception systems in real world.

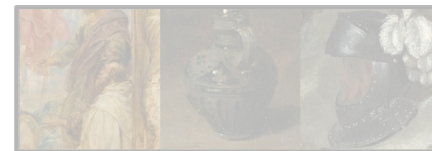
**1. Better annotation tools.**

[ICCV 2019]



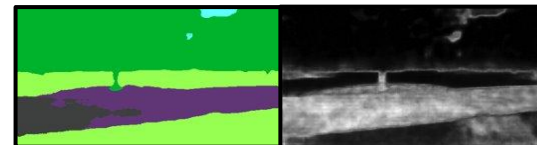
**2. Learning robust visual invariances.**

[PLOS One 2021, FAPER ICPR 2020, CVPR 2021]



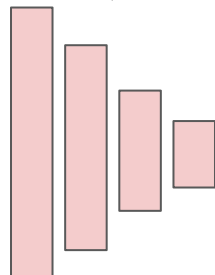
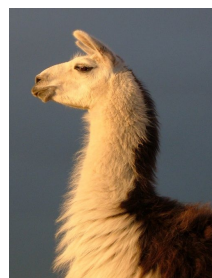
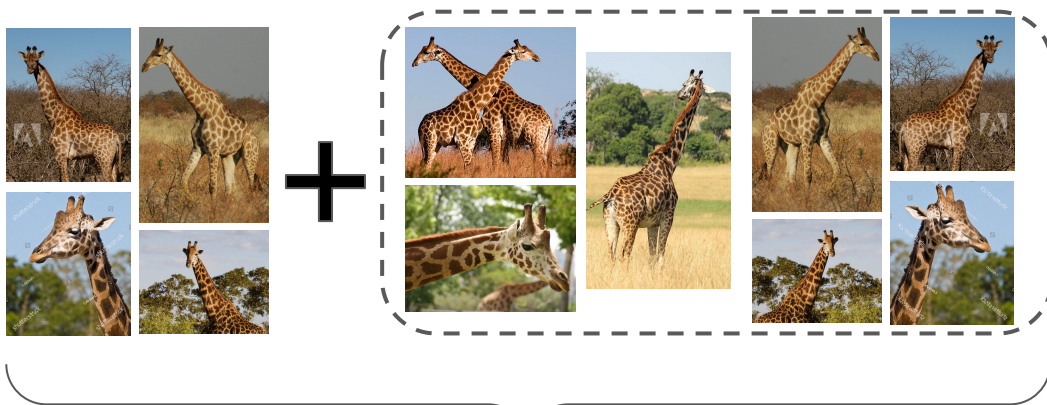
**3. Reasoning about perception uncertainties.**

[ICRA 2020]



**4. Summary.**

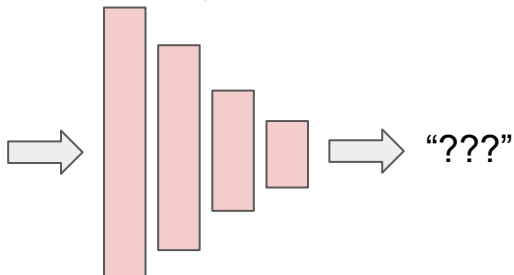
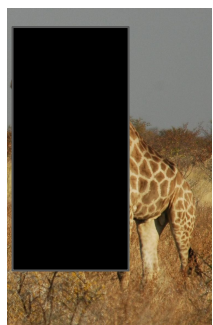
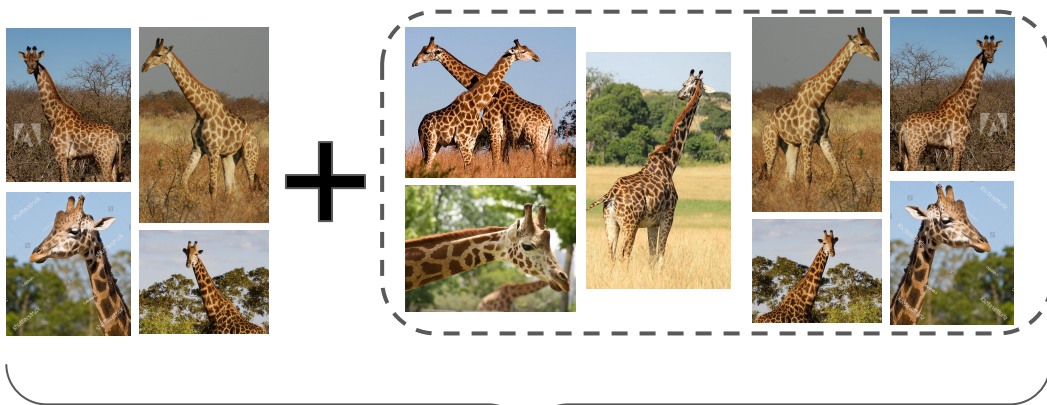
# Toy problem: Solved?



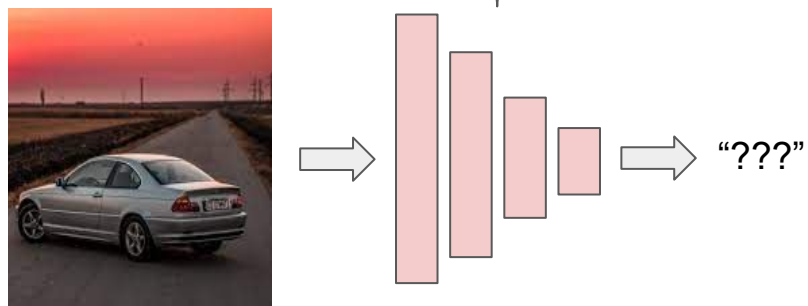
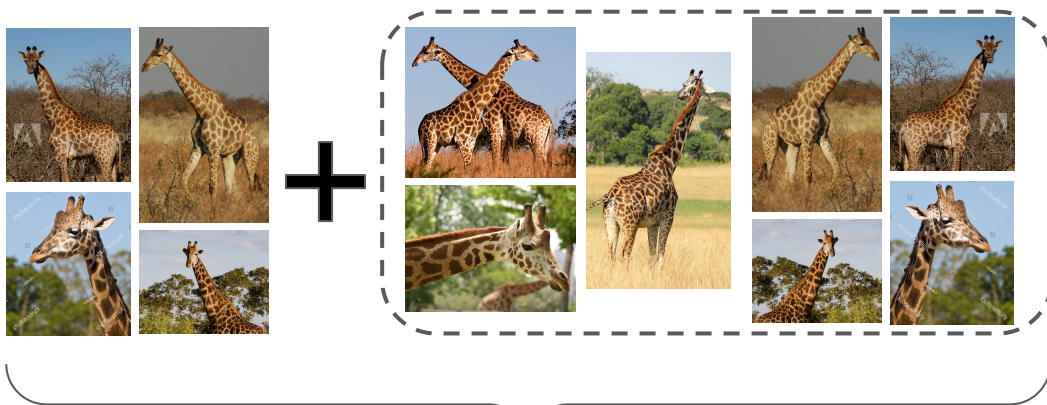
“Llama”



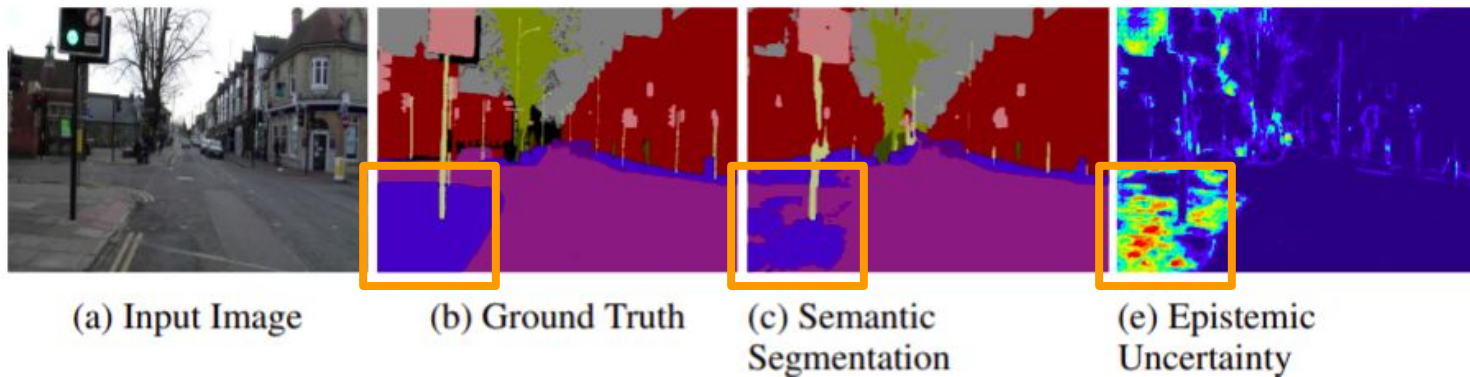
# Toy problem: Solved?



# Toy problem: Solved?



# Modeling Uncertainty



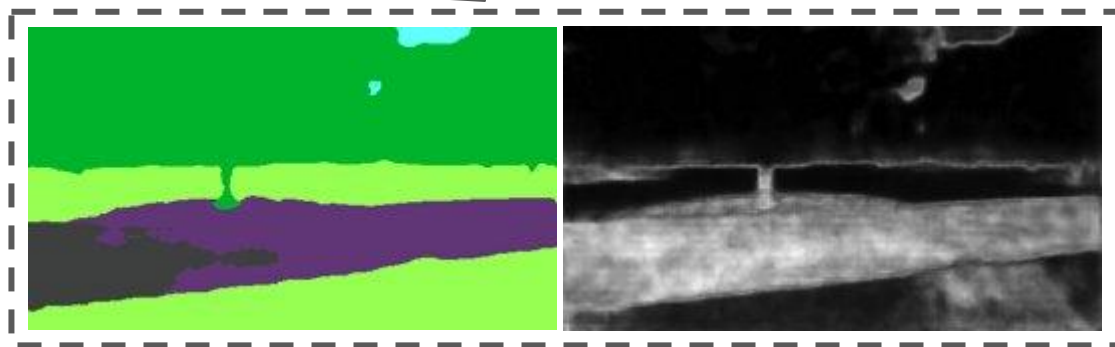
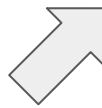
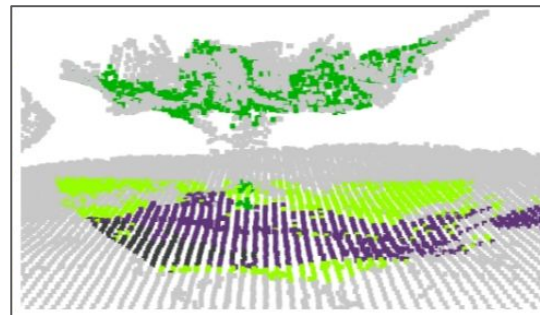
Incorrect predictions in regions with high model uncertainty



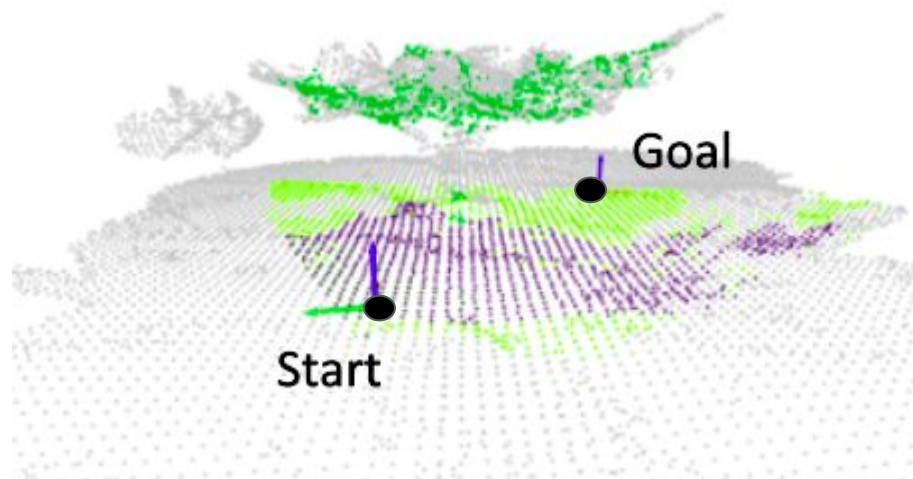
# Unstructured Real World Navigation



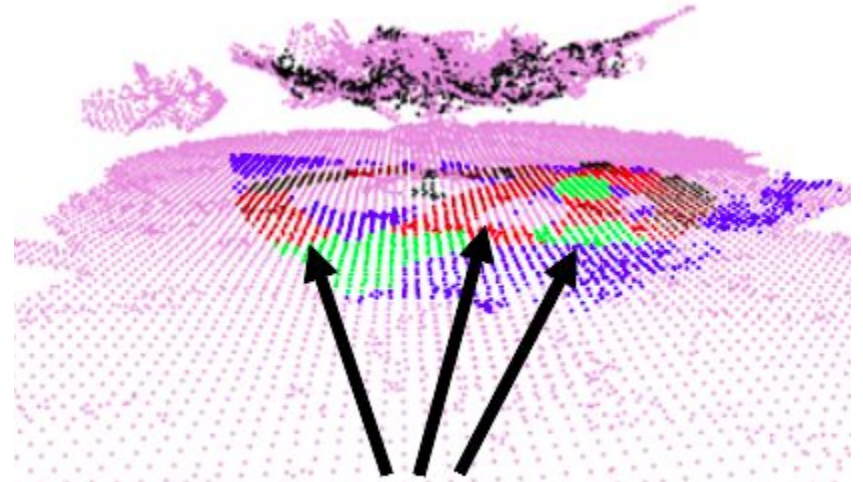
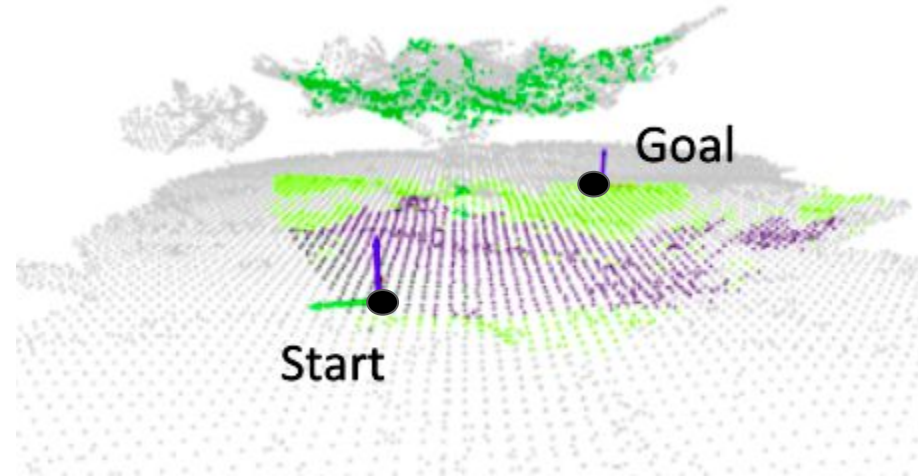
# Environment Semantics and Uncertainty



# Navigation Task

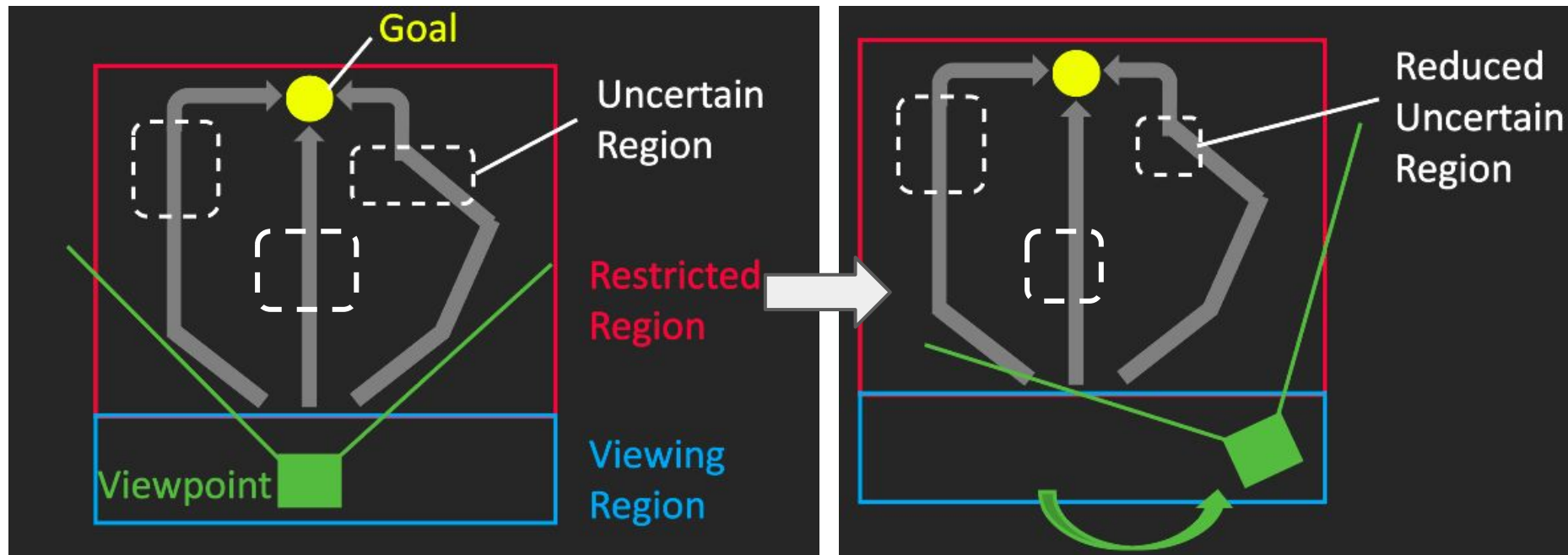


# Planned Paths



Uncertain or unsafe regions in potential paths

# Uncertainty Reduction



Current Measurement

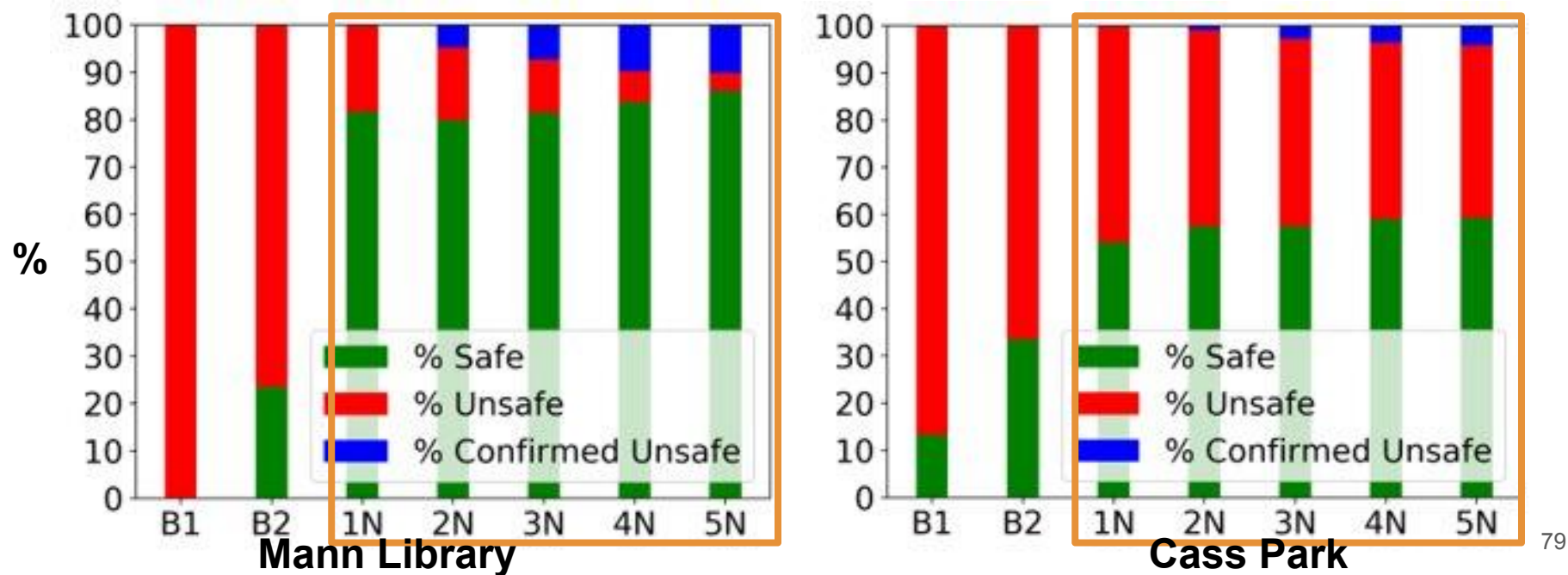
Updated Measurement

# Real World Test Environments



# Key Findings: Unstructured Real World Navigation

Reasoning about **semantics with uncertainty** allows higher path safety than (B1) only geometry and (B2) semantics without uncertainty reduction.

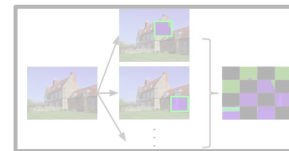


# Talk Outline

Many challenges in improving perception systems in real world.

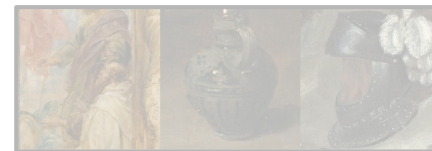
**1. Better annotation tools.**

[ICCV 2019]



**2. Learning robust visual invariances.**

[PLOS One 2021, FAPER ICPR 2020, CVPR 2021]



**3. Reasoning about perception uncertainties.**

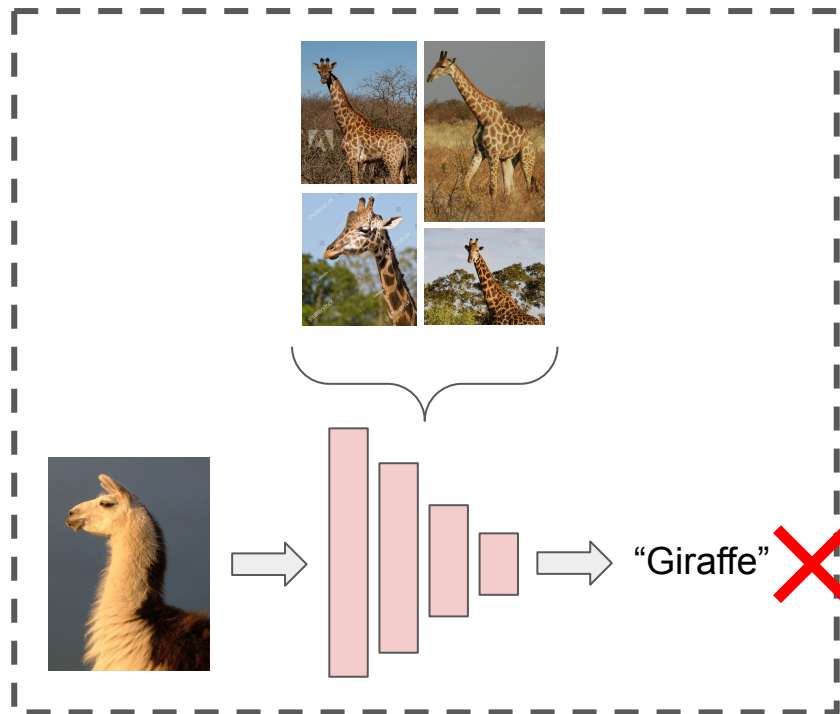
[ICRA 2020]



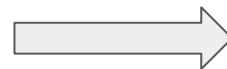
**4. Summary.**



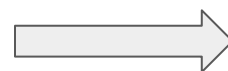
# Summary



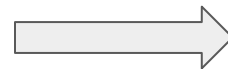
Training data and learned models  
are imperfect



Efficiently annotate  
more data



Encourage model to  
learn robust invariances



Reason about perception  
uncertainties when using  
model in real world

# Future Directions

1. Better annotation tools.
  - a. Which images or image regions to label?
2. Learning robust invariances from paintings.
  - a. Improved style transfer algorithms.
  - b. Implications for synthetic data in computer vision – physical realism goal?
  - c. Better methods for learning from paintings – domain generalization methods fail.
3. Reasoning about perception failures.
  - a. Combine with online adaptation and continual learning.

# Acknowledgements

Research group and collaborators from 2016 to 2022



Kavita  
Bala



Paul  
Upchurch



Scott  
Wehrwein



Balazs  
Kovacs



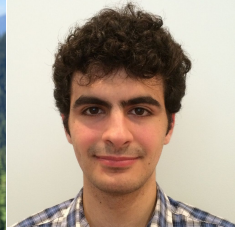
Fujun  
Luan



Utkarsh  
Mall



Hadi  
AlZayer



Aaron  
Gokaslan



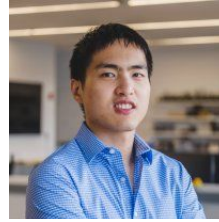
Mitchell  
Van Zuijlen



Maarten  
Wijntjes



Sylvia  
Pont



Yutao  
Han



Jacopo  
Banfi



Mark  
Campbell

Funding: NSERC, NSF, ONR

Thank you!

# References

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Van Zuijlen, Lin, Bala, Pont, Wijntjes, “**Materials In Paintings (MIP): An interdisciplinary dataset for perception, art history, and computer vision**”, PLOS One 2021

Lin, Van Zuijlen, Wijntjes, Pont, Bala, “**Insights from a Large-Scale Database of Material Depictions in Paintings**”, FAPER ICPR 2020

Lin, Van Zuijlen, Wijntjes, Pont, Bala, “**What Can Style Transfer and Paintings Do For Model Robustness?**”, CVPR 2021

Han\*, Lin\*, Banfi\*, Bala, Campbell, “**DeepSemanticHPPC: Hypothesis-based Planning over Uncertain Semantic Point Clouds**”, ICRA 2020



Removed + Backup Slides...

# Painting + Style Robustness Backup Slides



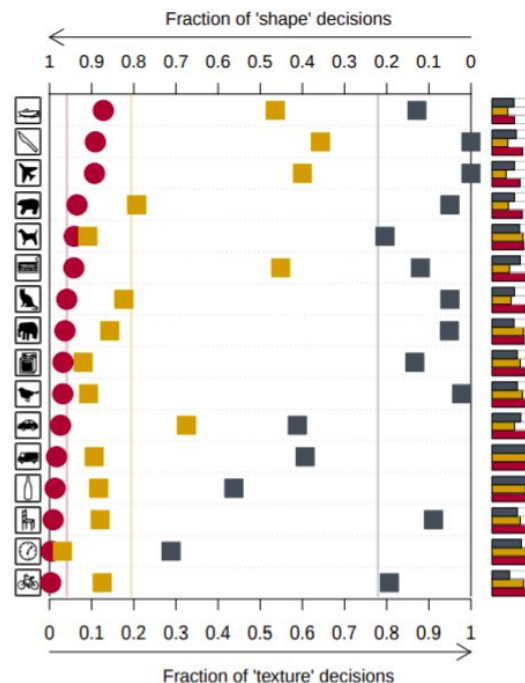
# Learning from Stylized Images

What do models learn from stylized images (“fake” paintings)?

- More shape-based decisions, similar to humans.

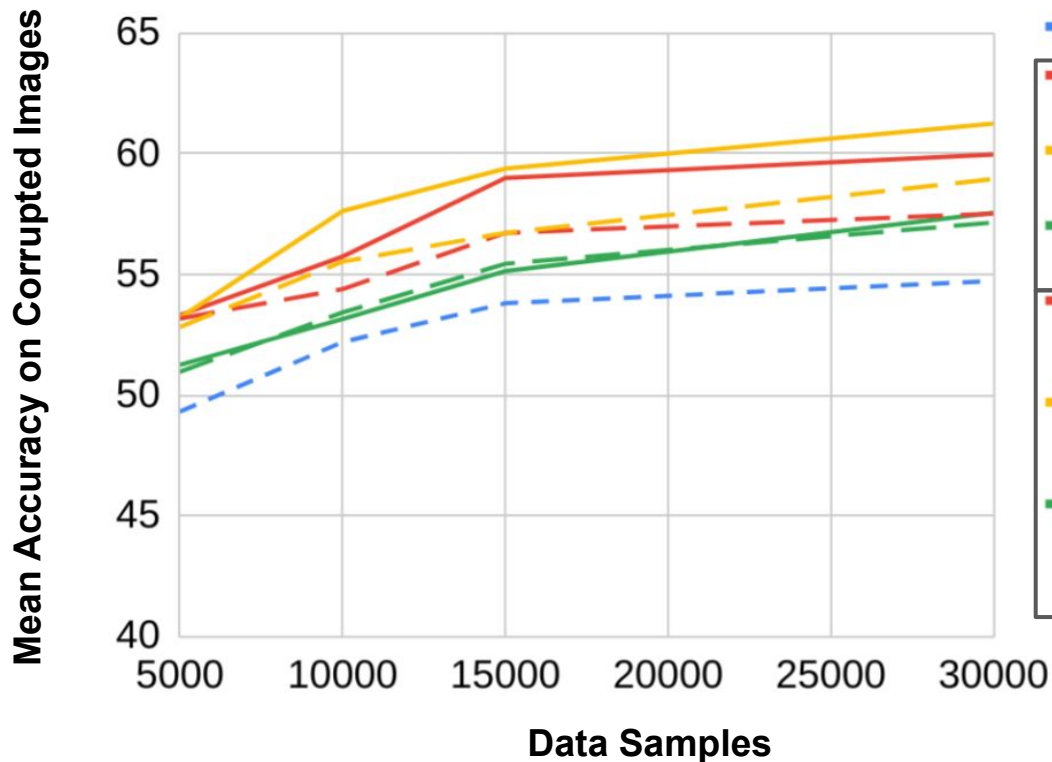


Cat shape with elephant texture



# Style Semantic Diversity vs Robustness

## Materials

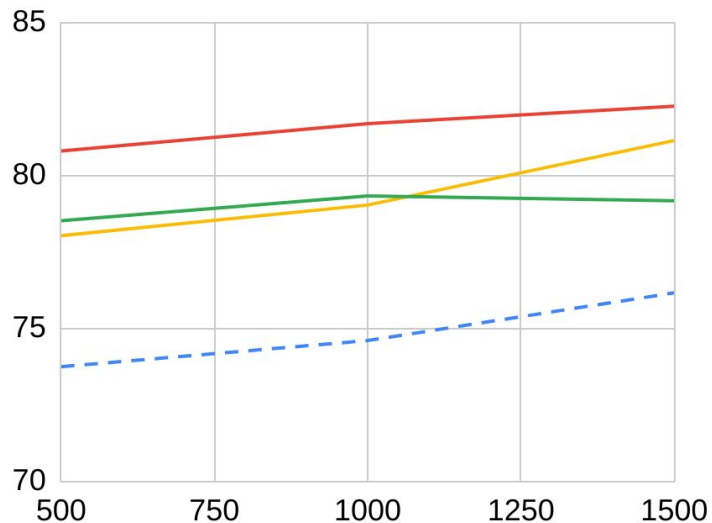


**Photos as  
Style Sources  
(No Paintings)**

**Photos as  
Style Sources  
(Same Semantic  
Class, No Paintings)**

# Style Strength vs Robustness

PACS



Method	Painting	Intradomain	Intradomain (Intraclass)
AdaIN	$1.58 \pm 0.93$	$1.28 \pm 0.79$	$1.16 \pm 0.85$
ETNet	$2.33 \pm 1.09$	$2.13 \pm 1.04$	$1.81 \pm 1.03$
TPFR	$1.52 \pm 0.90$	$1.38 \pm 0.87$	$1.27 \pm 0.91$

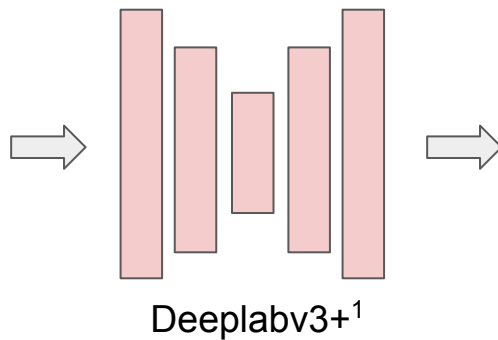
Table 6: **Style (Gram Matrix) Distance.** Gram matrices computed from ImageNet pretrained ResNet18 features on PACS. Mean distance between (image, stylized image) pairs is reported.  $\uparrow$  distance implies  $\uparrow$  style difference.  $\pm$  denotes standard deviation across 1.5K pairs.

# Stylization vs Paintings: Per-Corruption Accuracy

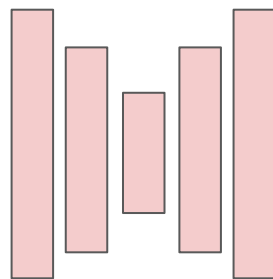
Method	Noise	Blur	Weather	Digital
<i>Materials (30K Samples/Domain)</i>				
Photo-Only	43.70±0.65	58.76±0.14	55.25±0.33	61.20±0.69
Photo + SACL	61.87±0.16	64.36±0.20	57.49±0.24	66.55±0.17
Photo + Painting	49.82±0.56	61.03±0.13	56.69±0.10	64.15±0.14
Photo+SACL (LF)	45.82±1.36	64.24±0.39	57.06±0.13	66.37±0.29
Photo+Painting (LF)	44.95±0.66	60.87±0.29	56.82±0.23	63.69±0.46
<i>PACS (1.5K Samples/Domain)</i>				
Photo-Only	62.64±1.48	72.75±0.04	83.24±0.22	86.33±0.14
Photo + SACL	85.98±0.56	84.61±0.15	89.73±0.33	88.74±0.48
Photo + Painting	68.83±0.83	75.80±0.95	86.88±0.66	87.07±0.14
Photo+SACL (LF)	77.55±2.60	85.4±0.11	88.93±0.22	88.53±0.15
Photo+Painting (LF)	71.16±1.31	75.97±0.71	86.82±0.37	87.35±0.36

# Path Planning Backup Slides

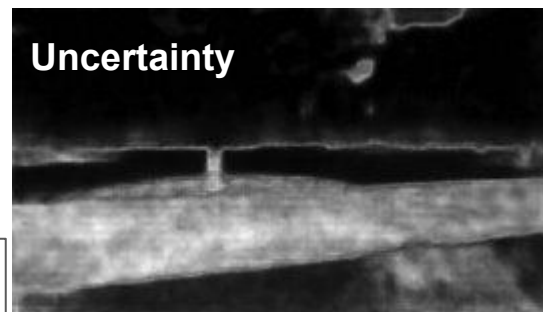
# Semantic Segmentation with Uncertainty



# Semantic Segmentation with Uncertainty



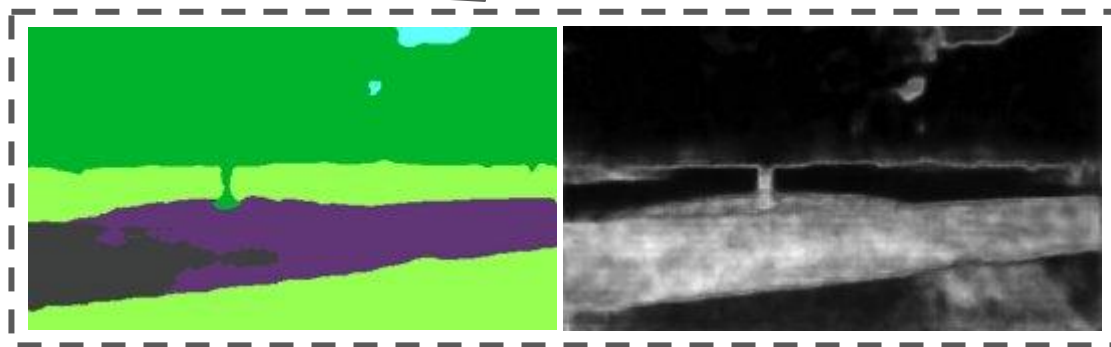
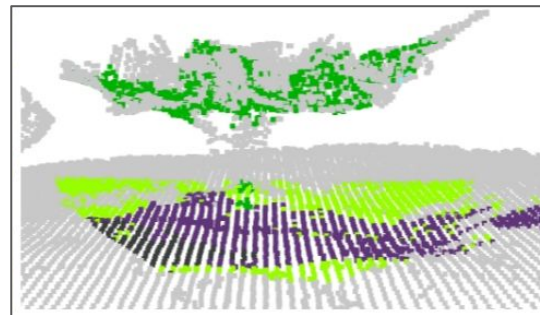
Deeplabv3+  
w/ dropout



$$\mathbf{p}^{(i,j)_X} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbf{s}_t^{(i,j)_X}(y|X)$$

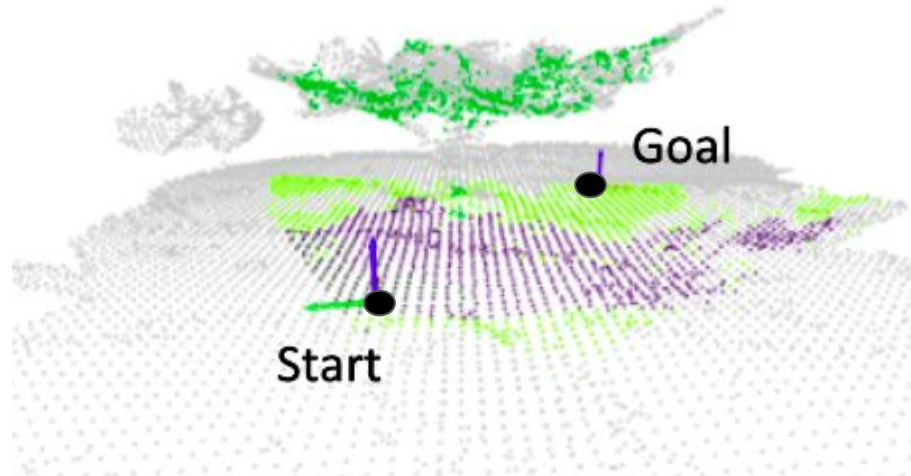
$$\sigma^{(i,j)_X} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{t=1}^T (\mathbf{s}_t^{(i,j)_X}(y|X) - \mathbf{p}^{(i,j)_X})^2}{T - 1}}$$

# Environment Semantics and Uncertainty





# Navigation Task



# Multihypothesis Path Planner

## Planner:

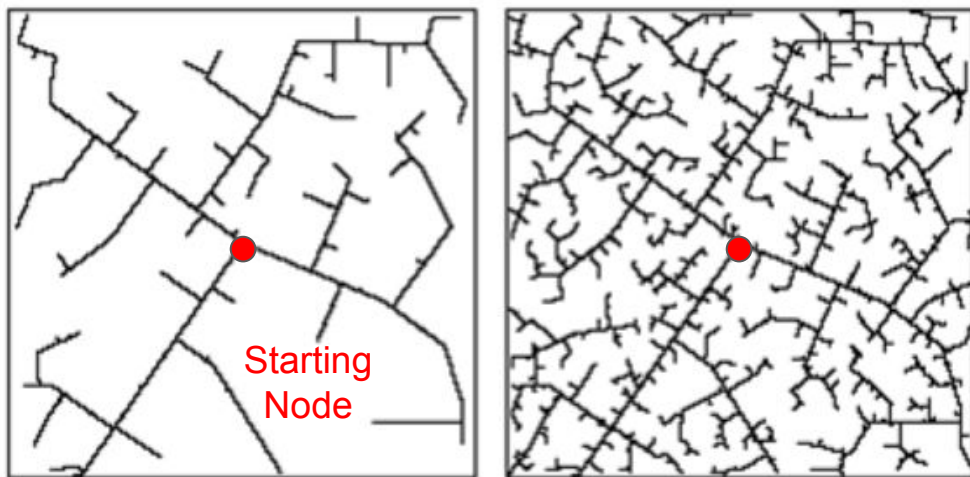
- RRT with sampling biased towards goal.
- Multiple paths: remove large regions after planning, and re-plan a new path.

## Feasibility constraints: [Krusi et al 2017]

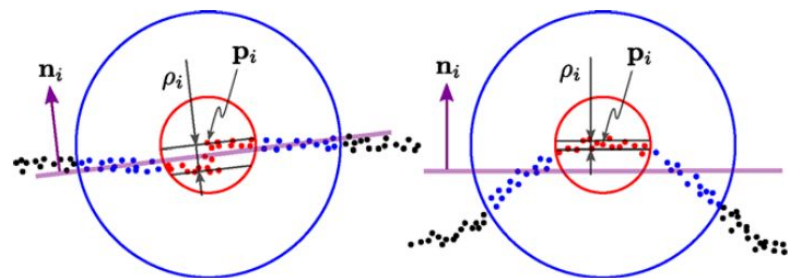
- Contact with the terrain surface.
- Static traversability (bounded roll and pitch angles).
- Kinematic constraints (motion primitives + bounded continuous curvature).

# Multihypothesis Path Planner

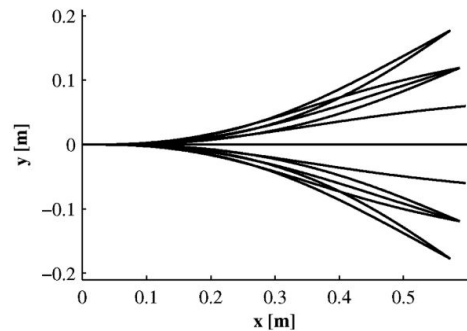
Basic RRT:



RRT Visualization

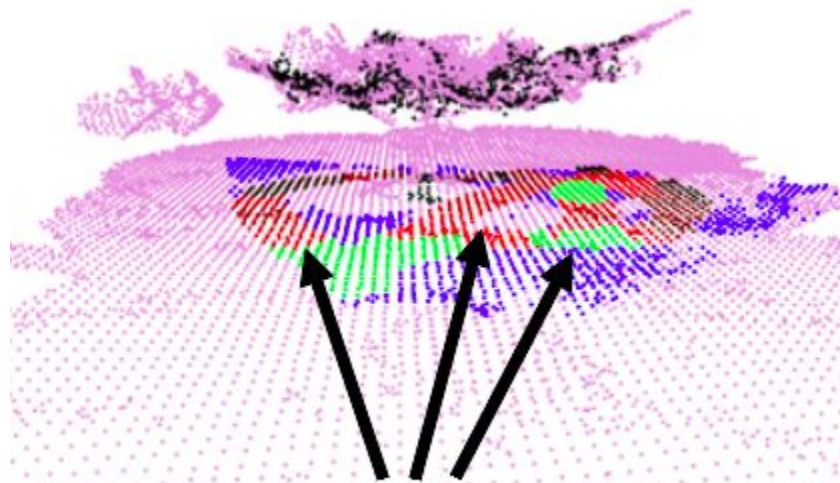
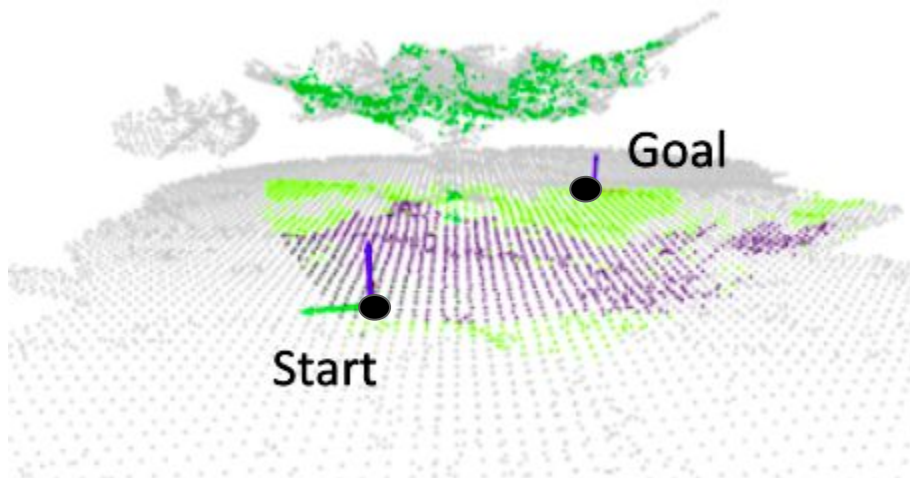


Terrain Smoothness



Motion Primitives

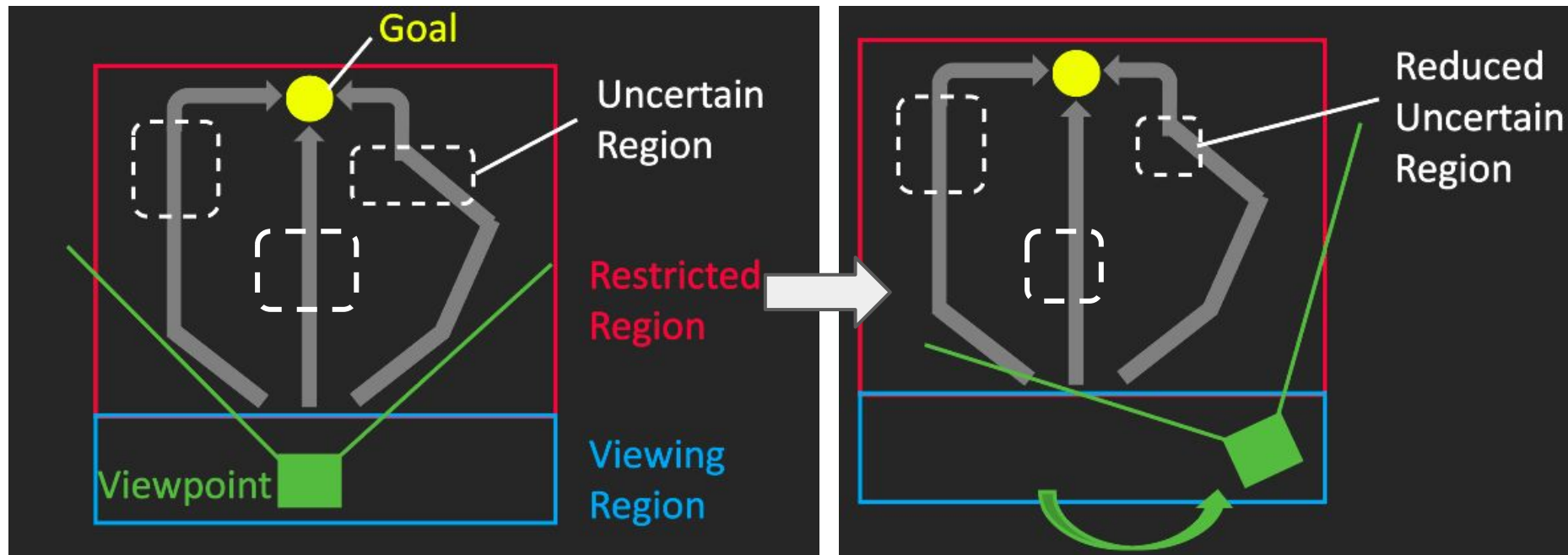
# Planned Paths



Uncertain or unsafe regions in potential paths

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{safe if } p_S^i - w_\sigma \sigma^i \geq \theta_s; \\ \text{unsafe if } p_U^i - w_\sigma \sigma^i \geq \theta_u; \\ \text{unclear otherwise.} \end{array} \right.$$

# Uncertainty Reduction






Current Measurement

Updated Measurement



# Uncertainty Reduction

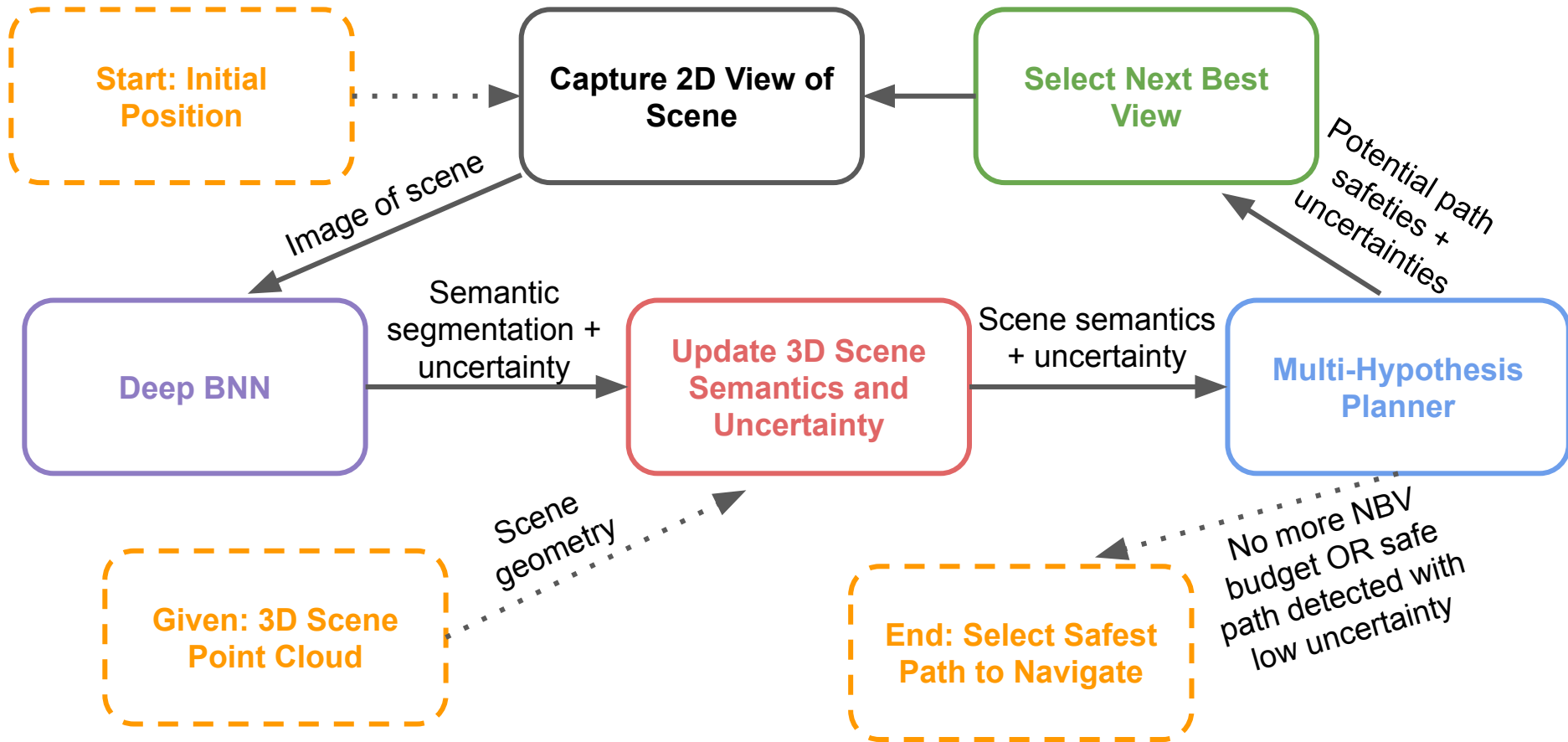
How to select new viewpoint?

## Camera pose heuristics:

-  Distance to visible path nodes.
-  Viewing angle (vs initial viewing orientation).
-  Number of path nodes seen from view.

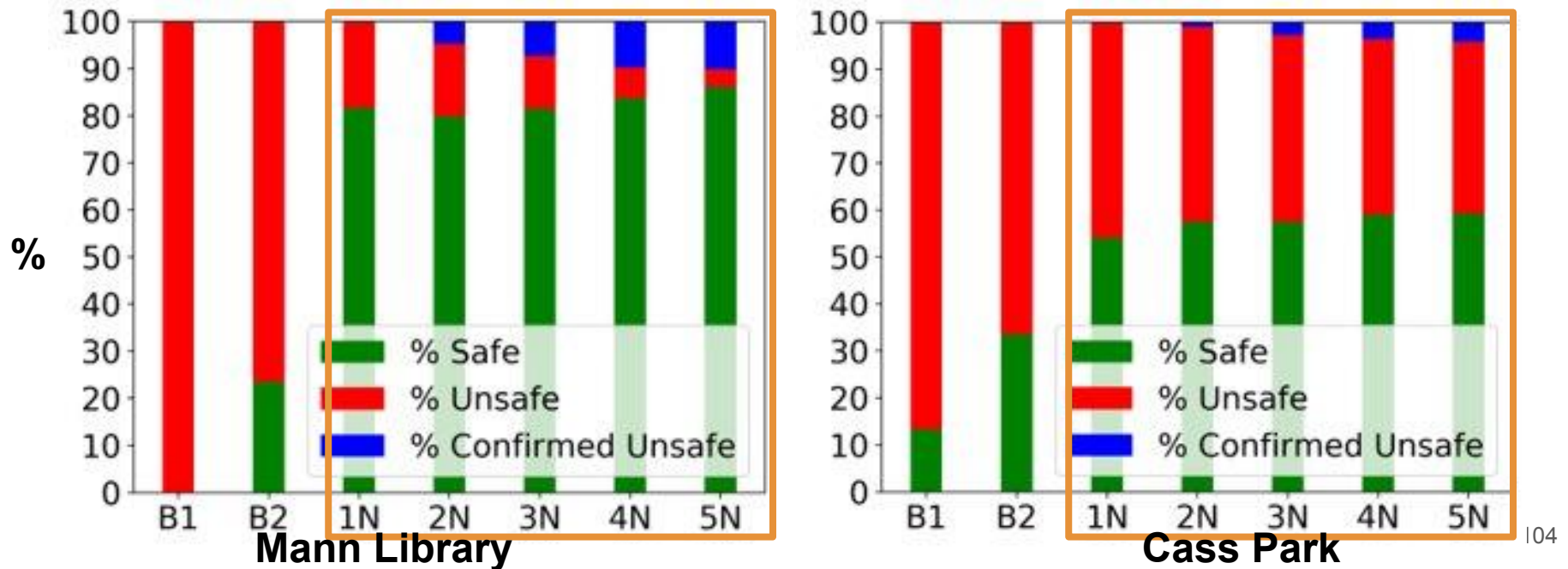
## Uncertainty reduction heuristics:

-  Uncertainty of visible path nodes.
-  Pixel coverage visible path nodes projected onto view.



# Key Findings: Unstructured Real World Navigation

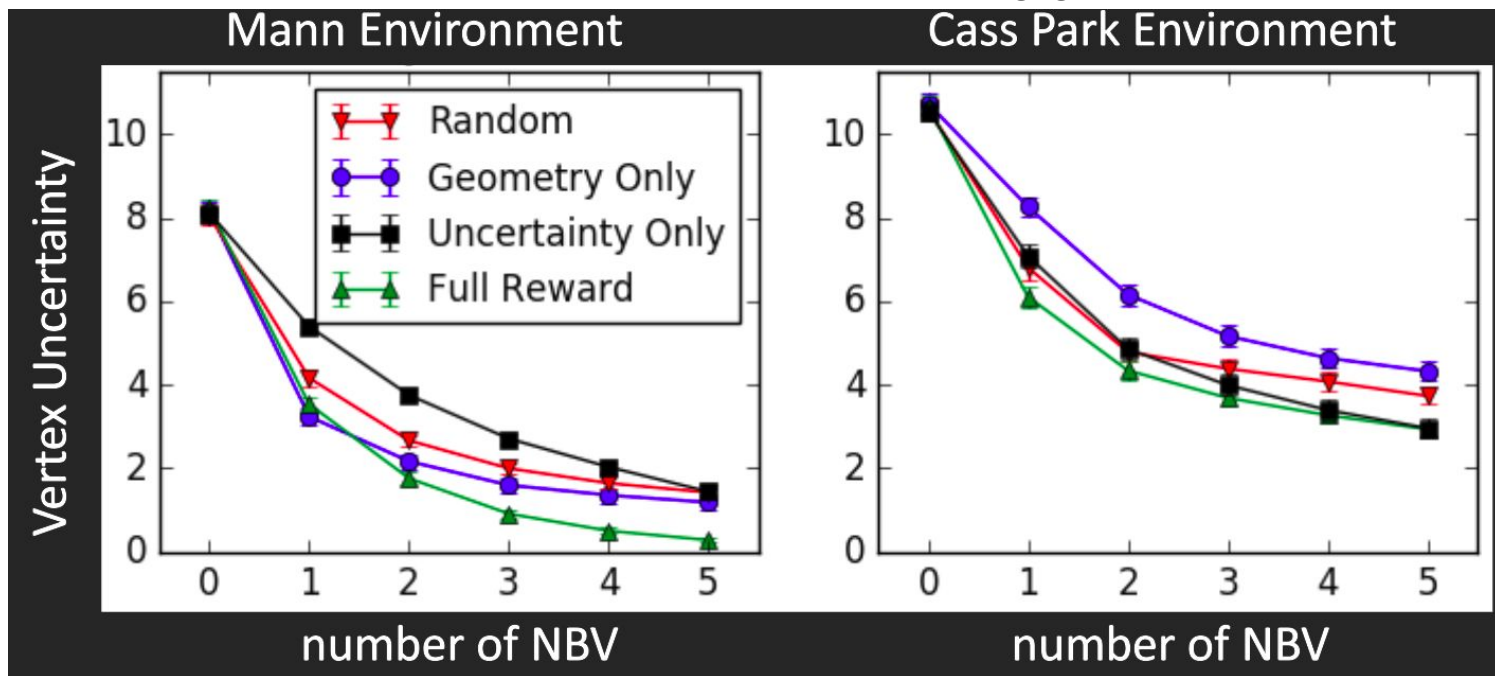
Reasoning about **semantics with uncertainty** allows higher path safety than (B1) only geometry and (B2) semantics without uncertainty reduction.





# Key Findings: Unstructured Real World Navigation

Accounting for **viewing angle+distance (geometry)** and **uncertainty of viewable path nodes** is important for selecting good measurements.





# Uncertainty Reduction



Projected / Estimated View  
(given point cloud)



True Captured View of Environment

$$p_S^i = \sum_{j \in S} p_j^i, p_U^i = 1 - p_S^i = \sum_{j \in U} p_j^i$$

$$\sigma^i = \min(\sqrt{\sum_{j \in S} \sigma_j^{i2}}, \sqrt{\sum_{j \in U} \sigma_j^{i2}})$$