

# Character Controllers using Motion VAEs

Hung Yu Ling<sup>1</sup>, Fabio Zinno<sup>2</sup>, George Cheng<sup>2</sup>, Michiel van de Panne<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of British Columbia <sup>2</sup>Electronic Arts Vancouver



How to use reinforcement learning  
for kinematic animation?

Try out the web-based demo at the QR code above, or  
find our paper at [cs.ubc.ca/~hyuling/projects/mvae](https://cs.ubc.ca/~hyuling/projects/mvae).

## Benefits of Reinforcement Learning

1. One motion model supports multiple tasks
2. Better task performance with model-then-control



*What happens when you ask a neural network to  
turn right, when it has only been trained on left turns.*

Hung Yu Ling, Fabio Zinno, George Cheng, and Michiel van de Panne.  
Character Controllers using Motion VAEs. SIGGRAPH 2020.

## Motion VAE Framework

1. Mixture model encodes possible future states
2. Train controllers on top of Motion VAEs using RL

