

# Active Comparison Based Learning Incorporating User Uncertainty and Noise

Rachel Holladay

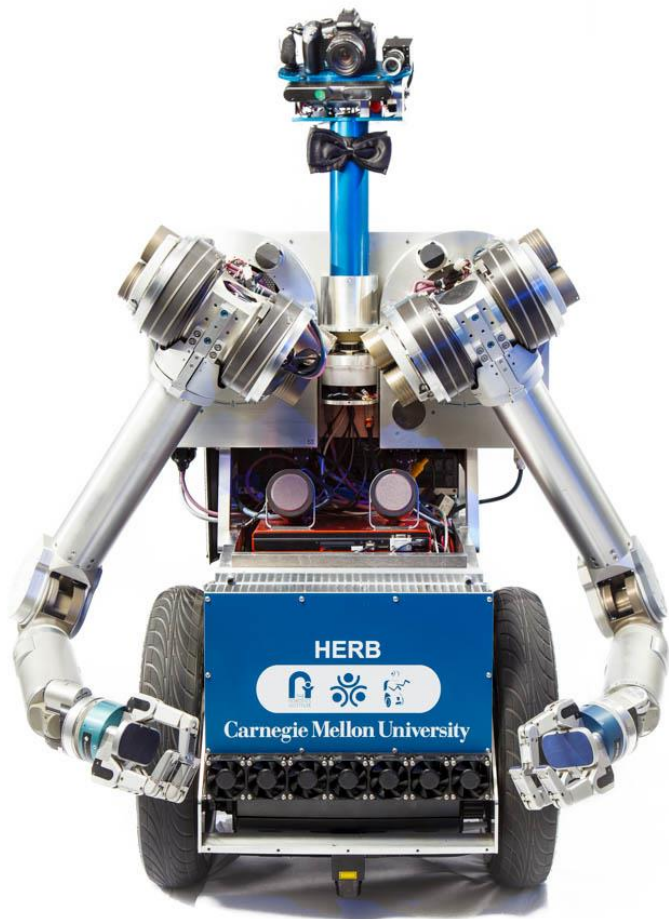
Shervin Javdani

Anca Dragan

Siddhartha Srinivasa

**Carnegie  
Mellon  
University**

**Berkeley**  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



# Personal Robotics Laboratory



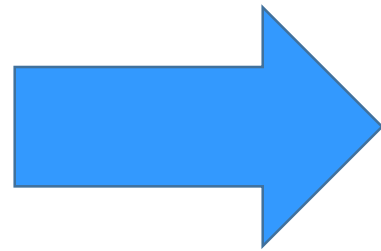
Holladay, Rachel M., Siddhartha S. Srinivasa. "RoGuE: Robot Gesture Engine." *AAAI Spring Symposium Series*. 2016.

Holladay, Rachel M., Anca D. Dragan, Siddhartha S. Srinivasa. "Legible robot pointing." *RO-MAN*. IEEE, 2014.

*cost<sub>task</sub>( $\theta$ )*

$$\min_{\Theta} \text{cost}_{task}(\Theta)$$

$cost_{task}(\theta)$

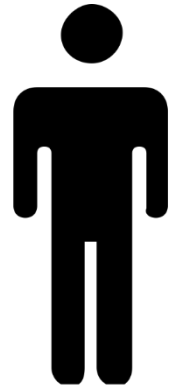




Holladay, Rachel M., Siddhartha S. Srinivasa. "RoGuE: Robot Gesture Engine." *AAAI Spring Symposium Series*. 2016.

Holladay, Rachel M., Anca D. Dragan, Siddhartha S. Srinivasa. "Legible robot pointing." *RO-MAN*. IEEE, 2014.

$cost_{task}(\Theta) ?$

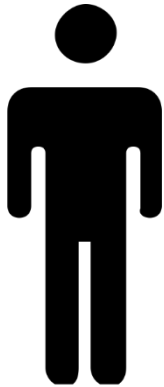


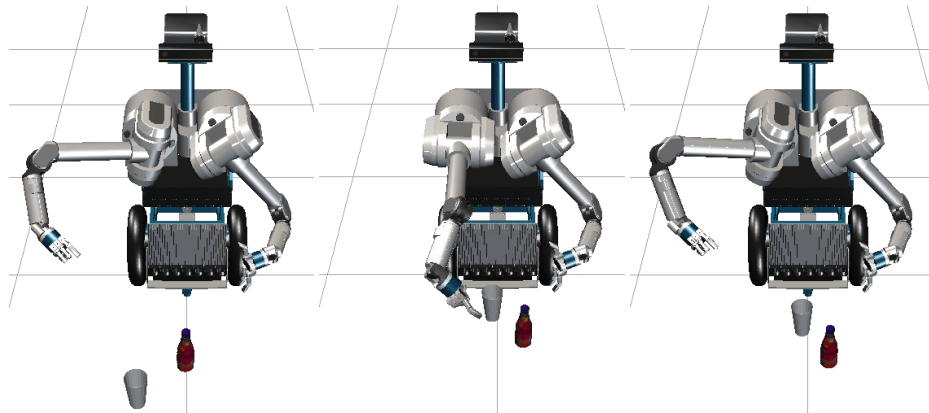


$cost_{task}(\Theta) ?$



?

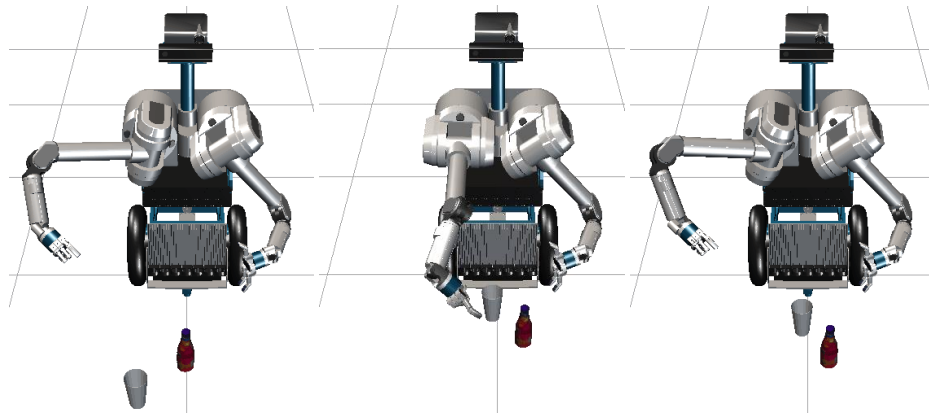




A

B

C



A

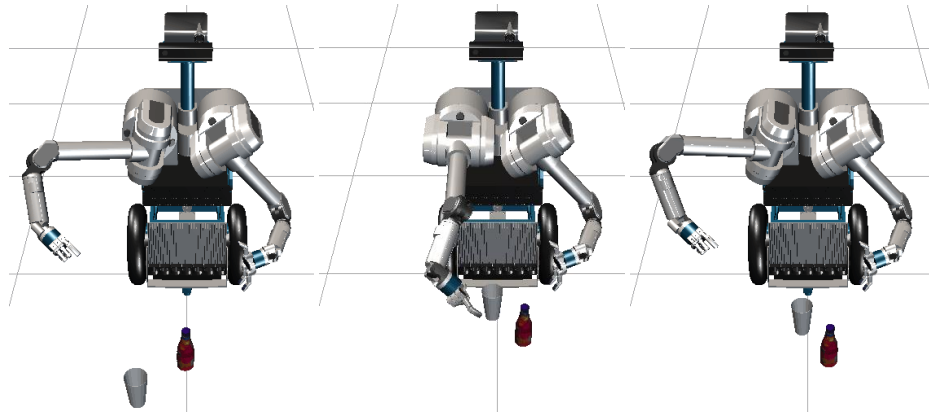
$\text{cost}(A)$

B

$\text{cost}(B)$

C

$\text{cost}(C)$



A

B

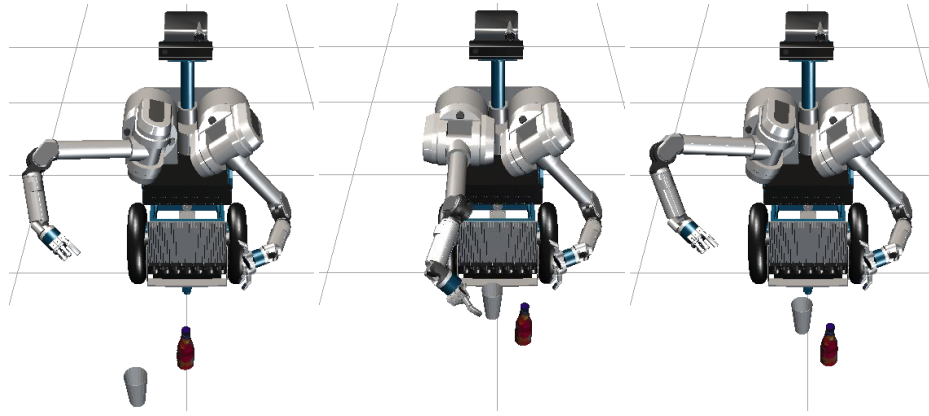
C

$\text{cost}(A)$

$\text{cost}(B)$

$\text{cost}(C)$

$\text{cost}(C) < \text{cost}(A) < \text{cost}(B)$



A

B

C

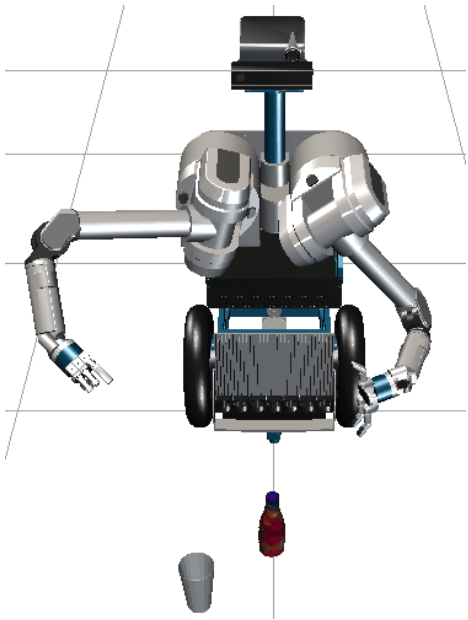
$\text{cost}(A)$

$\text{cost}(B)$

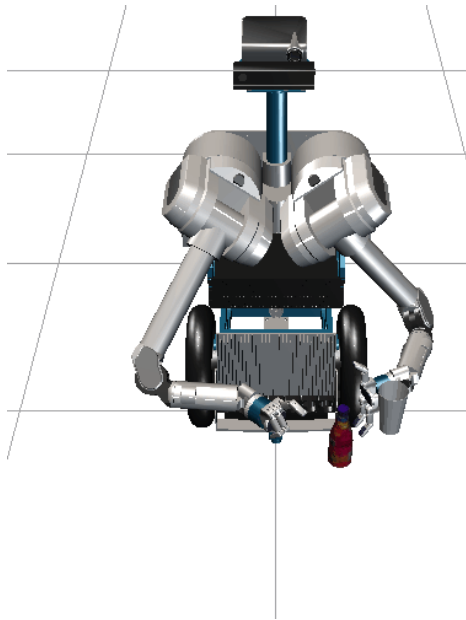
$\text{cost}(C)$

$\text{cost}(C) < \text{cost}(A) < \text{cost}(B)$

$C < A < B$



Left

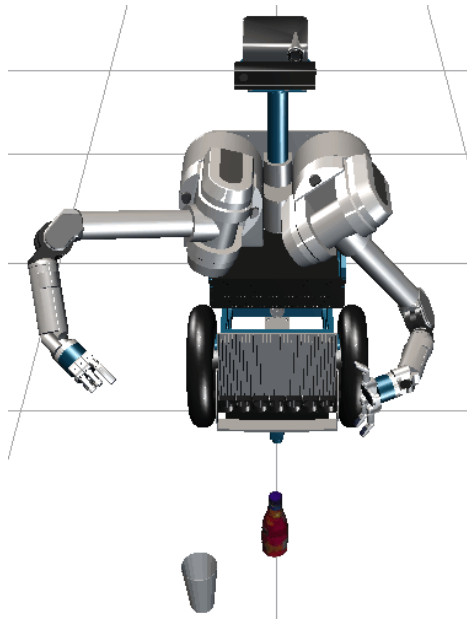


Right

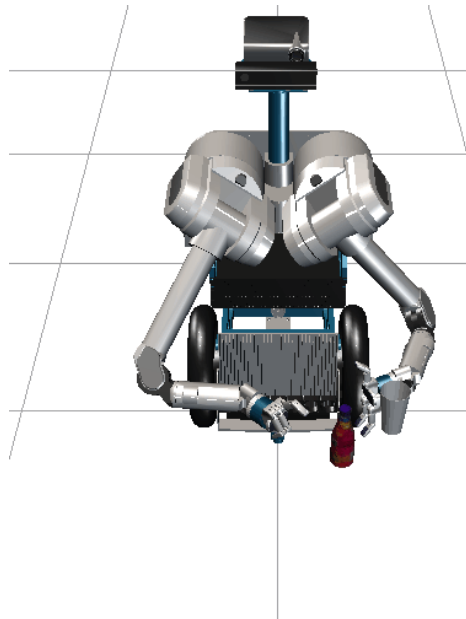
*Which  
do you  
prefer?*

# Comparison Based Learning

Ben Carterette, Paul N. Bennett, David Maxwell Chickering, and Susan T. Dumais. "Here or there: Preference judgments for relevance." *ECIR*, 2008.



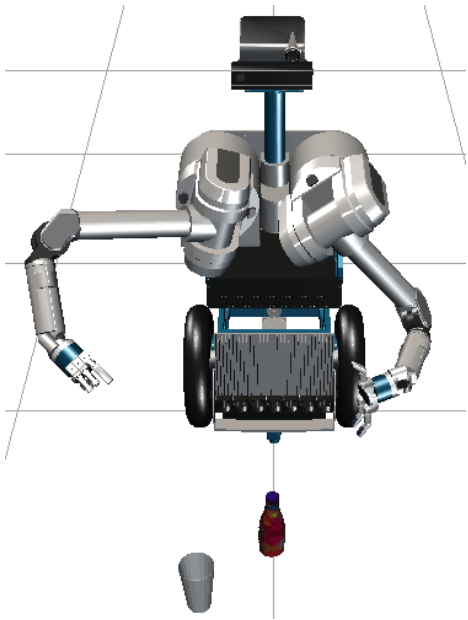
Left



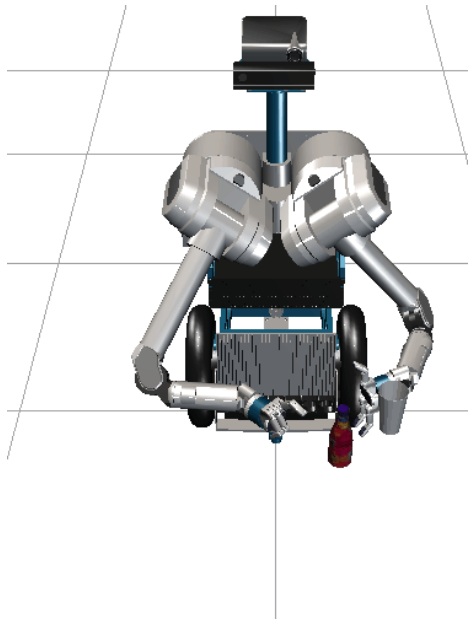
Right

*Test*  
*(Left, Right)*

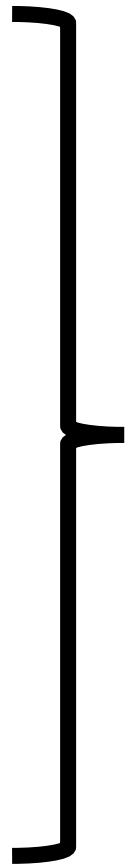




Left



Right

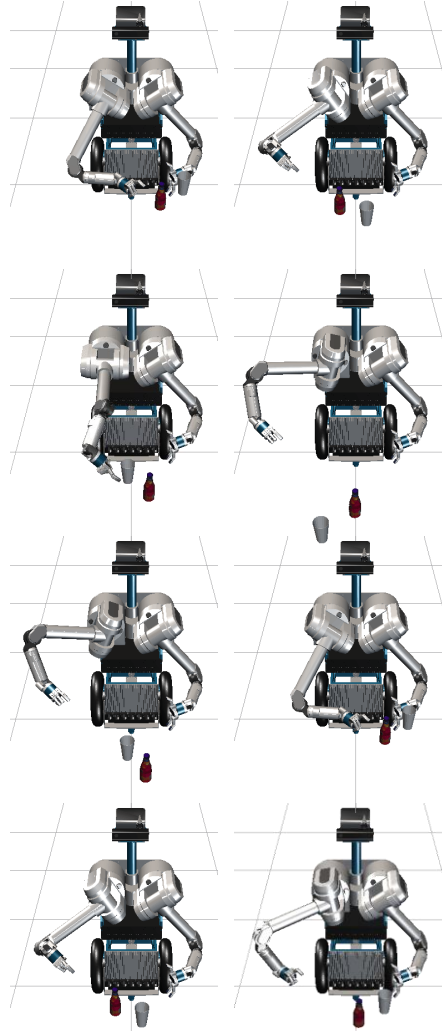
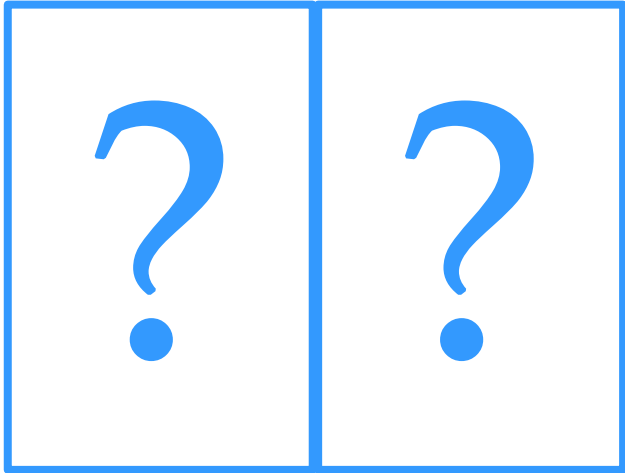


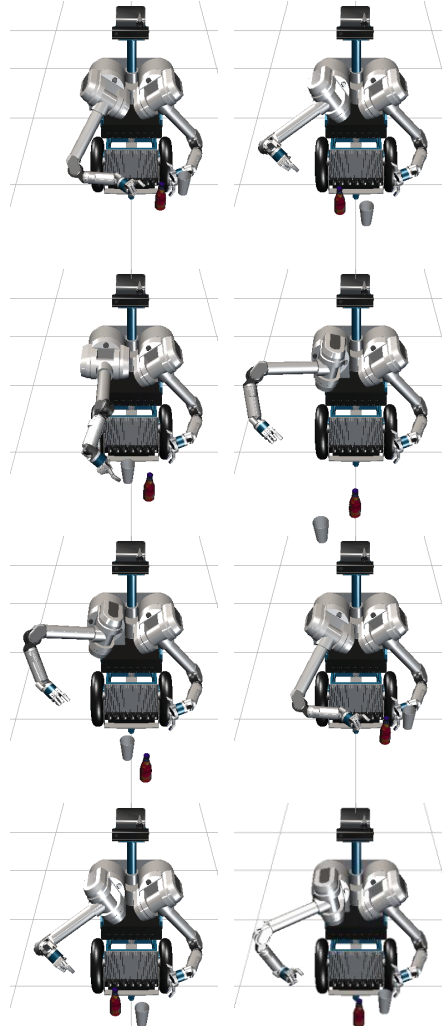
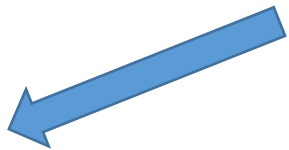
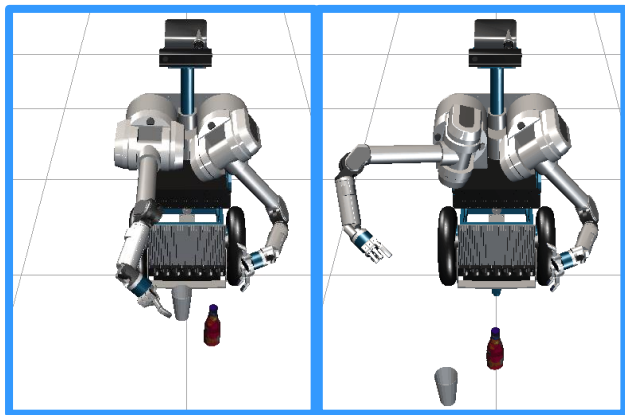
*Observation*  
*Left > Right*

*Objective:*

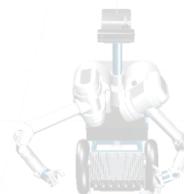
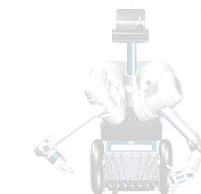
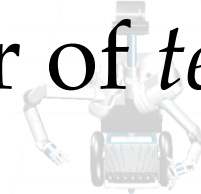
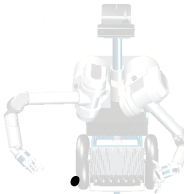
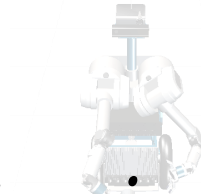
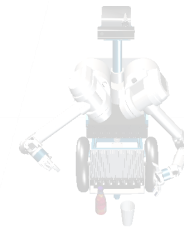
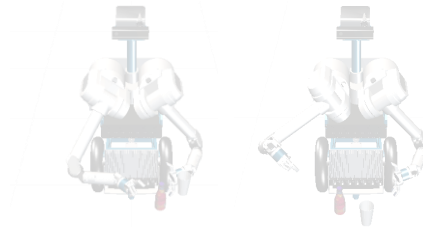
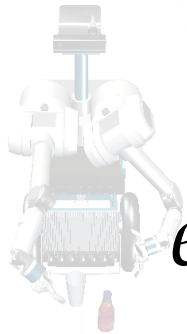
*Learn their cost function with the  
fewest number of tests to minimize user burden*

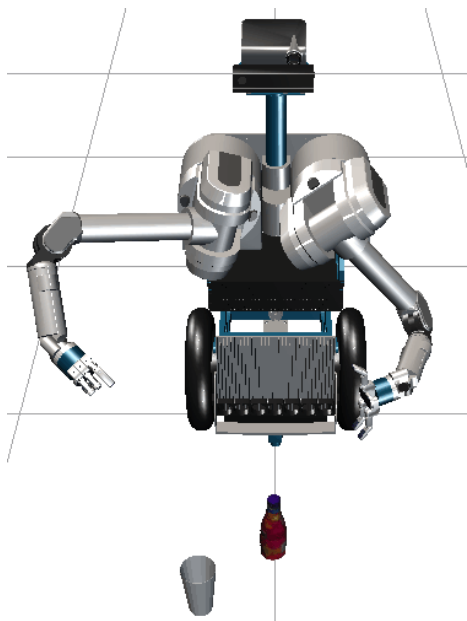
# Active Learning



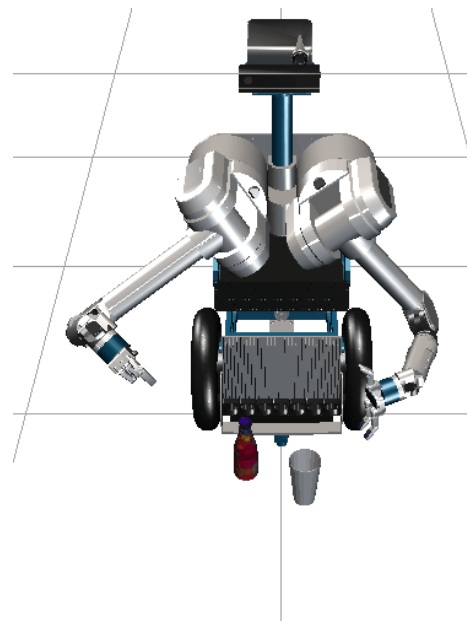


Select test that *minimizes* the  
*expected* number of *tests* needed



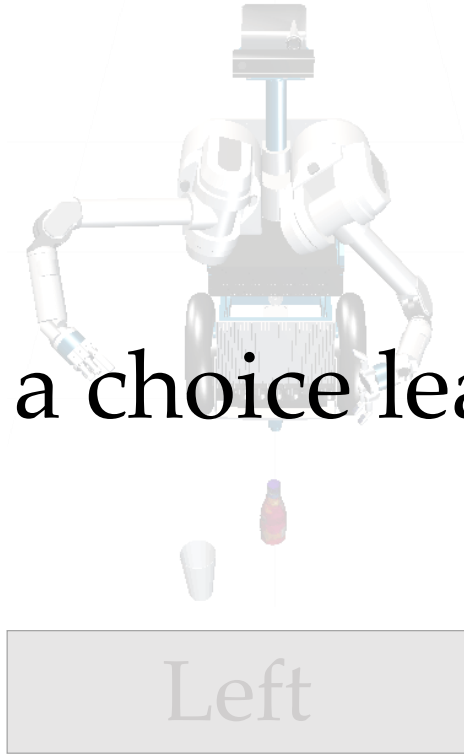


Left



Right

Forcing a choice leads to *noisy* responses





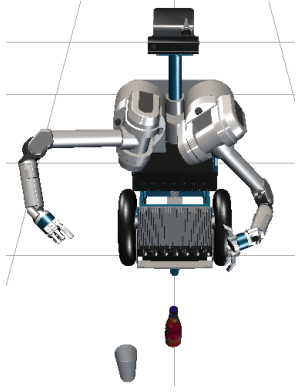
A diagram of a robot arm with a white and blue body, positioned centrally over a choice between a white cup and a red bottle. The robot is flanked by two grey rectangular buttons labeled 'Left' and 'Right'.

Forcing a choice leads to *noisy* responses  
because the user is *uncertain*.

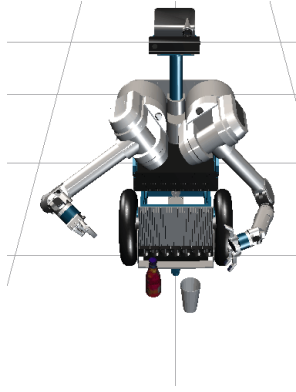
Left

Right

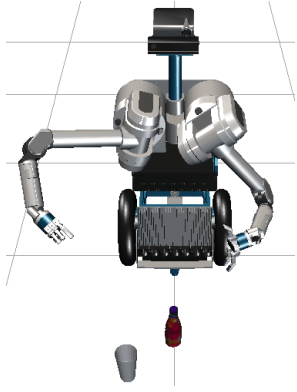
Users *want* to express uncertainty.



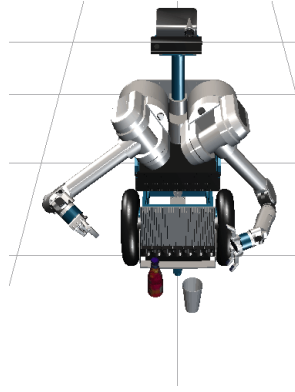
Left



Right

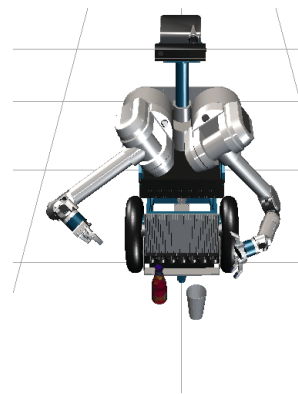
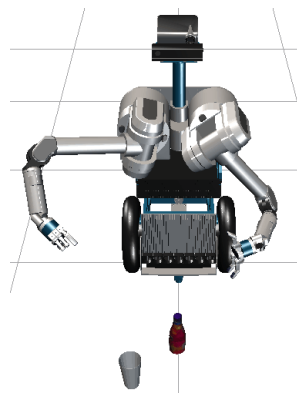
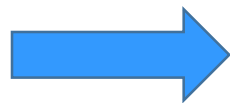
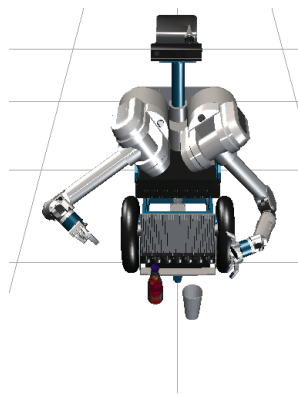
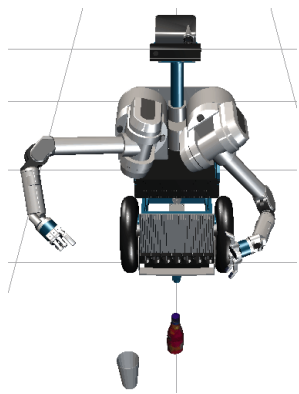


Left



Right

*Forced Preference*



Left

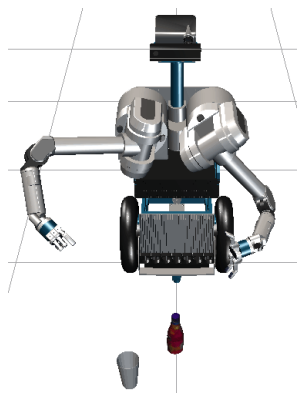
Right

Left

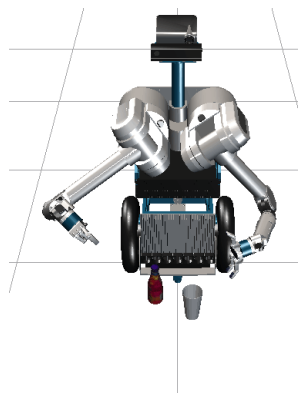
?

Right

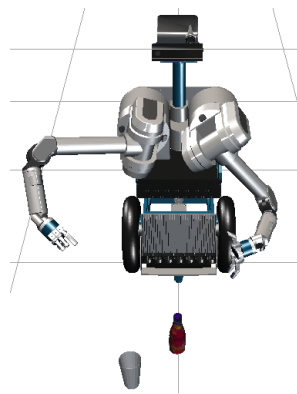
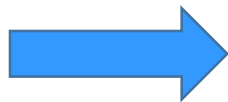
*Forced Preference*



Left

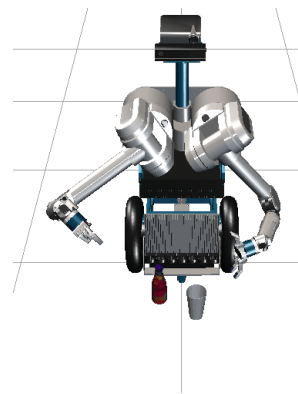


Right



Left

?



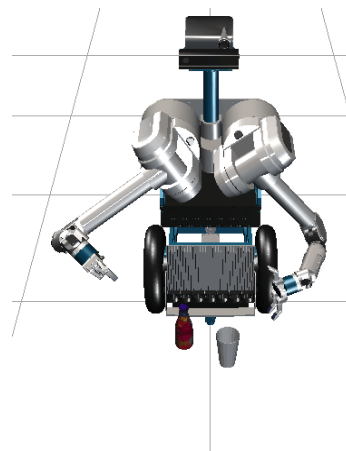
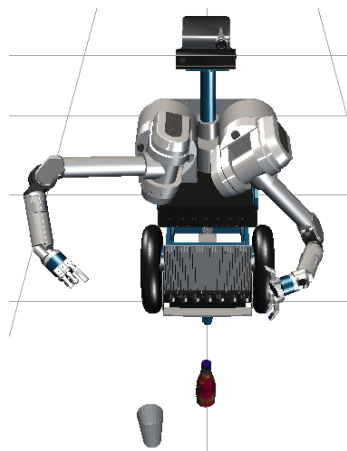
Right

*Forced Preference*

*Uncertain Preference*

*Key Insight*

*The user's **uncertainty** is  
**informative** about their cost function*

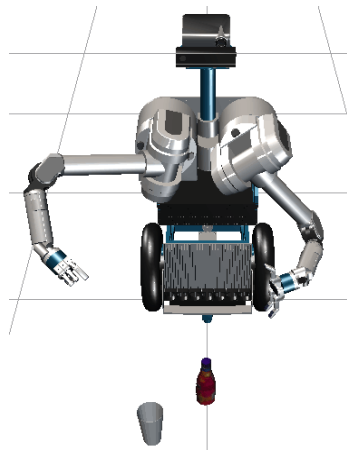


Left

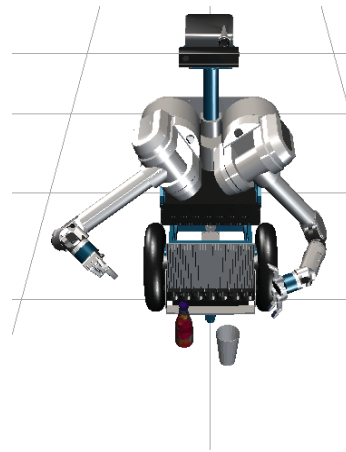
?

Right

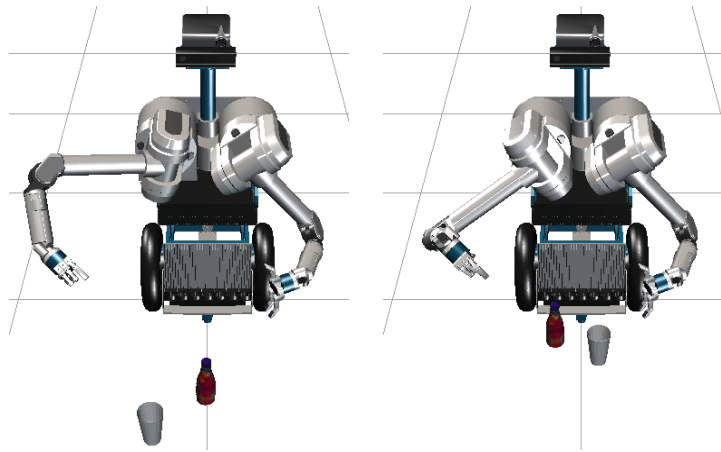




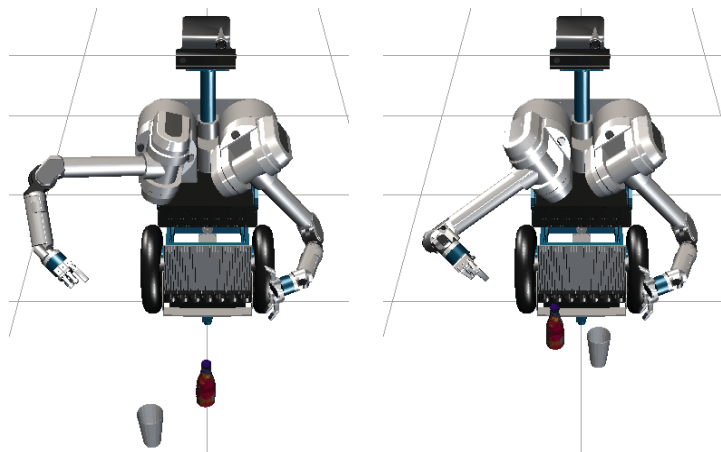
Cost(L)



Cost(R)



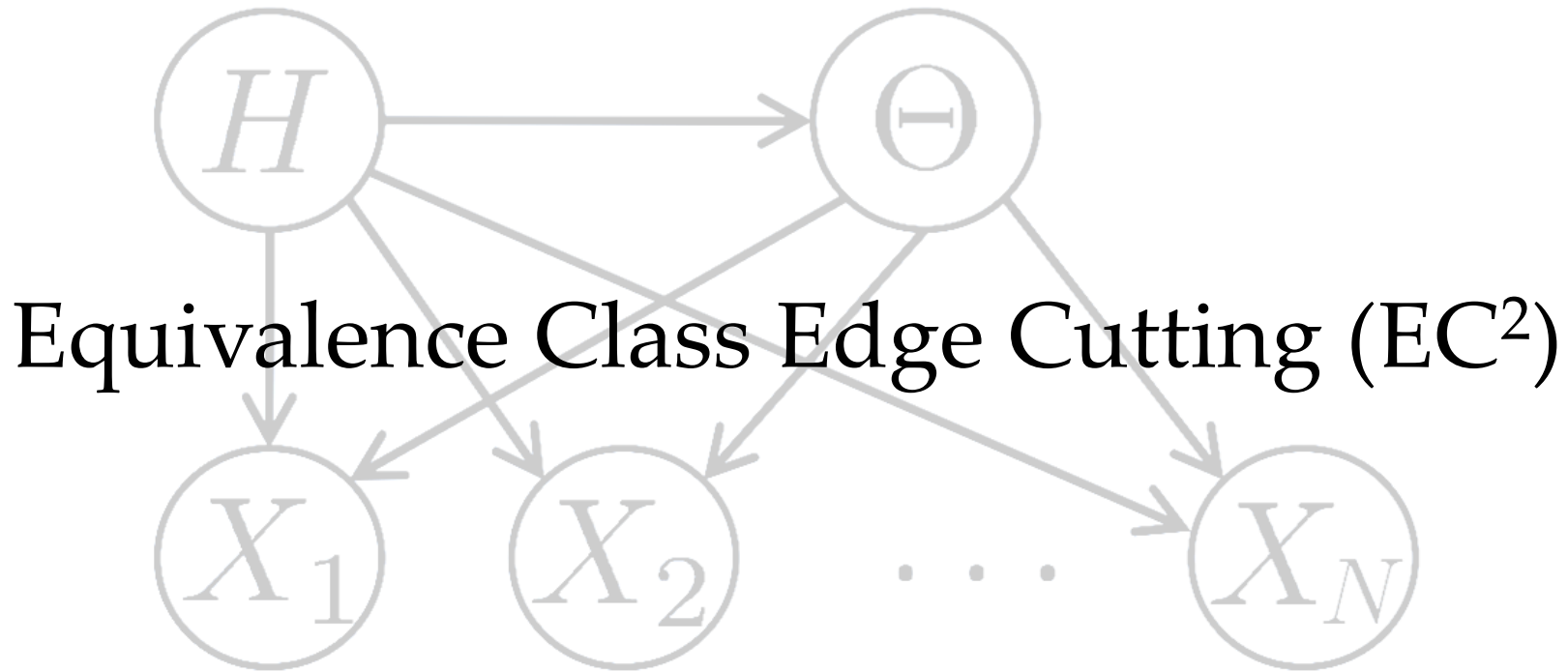
$$\text{Cost(L)} \approx \text{Cost(R)}$$



$$\text{Cost(L)} \approx \text{Cost(R)}$$

$$|\text{Cost(L)} - \text{Cost(R)}| < \varepsilon$$

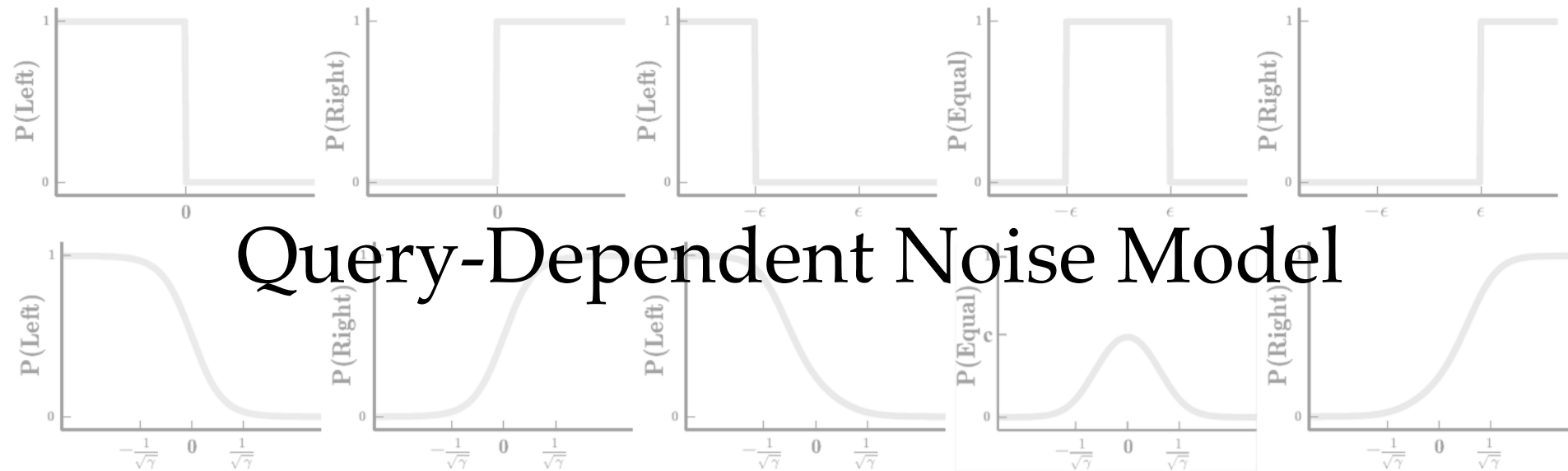
Do not learn the user's  $\epsilon$ .



Users can be *noisy*.

Saleema Amershi, Maya Cakmak, W. Bradley Knox, and Todd Kulesza. Power to the people: The role of humans in interactive machine learning. *AI Magazine*, 2014.

# Query-Dependent Noise Model

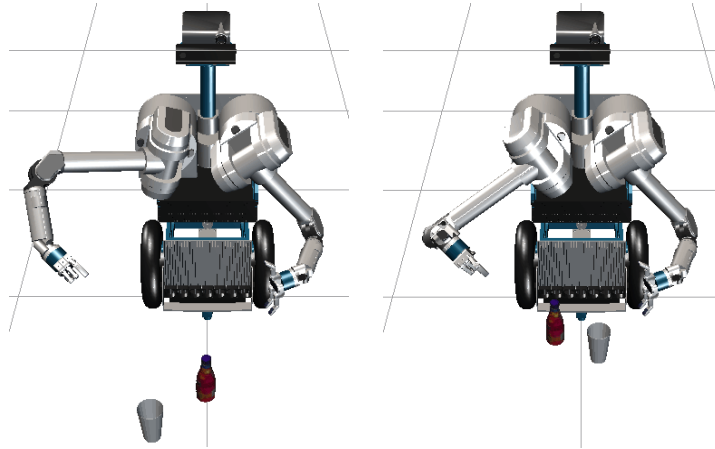


*CLAUS:*  
*Comparison Learning*  
*Algorithm for Uncertain Situations*



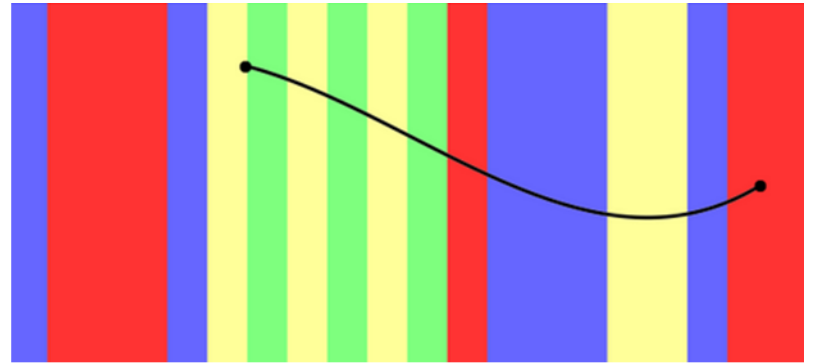
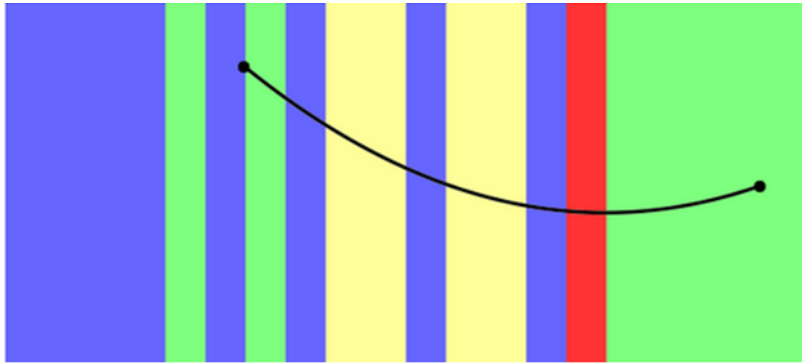
# User Evaluation

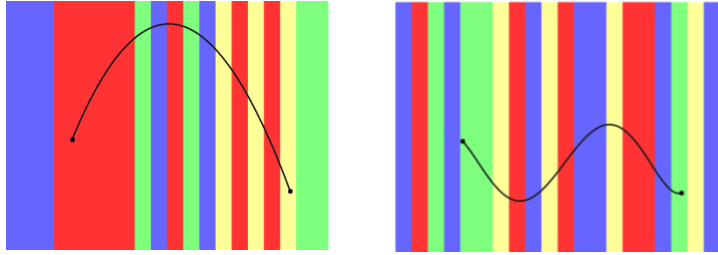
# Noisy User Evaluation



# *Known* Cost Function

Which line is longer?



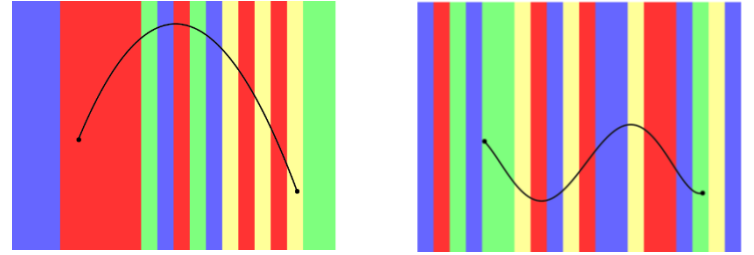


Left

Right

*Forced Preference*

*vs.*



Left

?

Right

*Uncertain Preference*

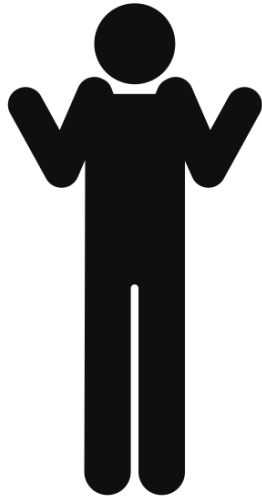
How do you *label* uncertainty?

Left

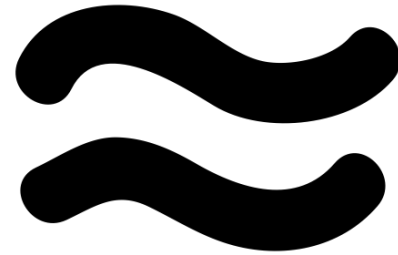
?

Right

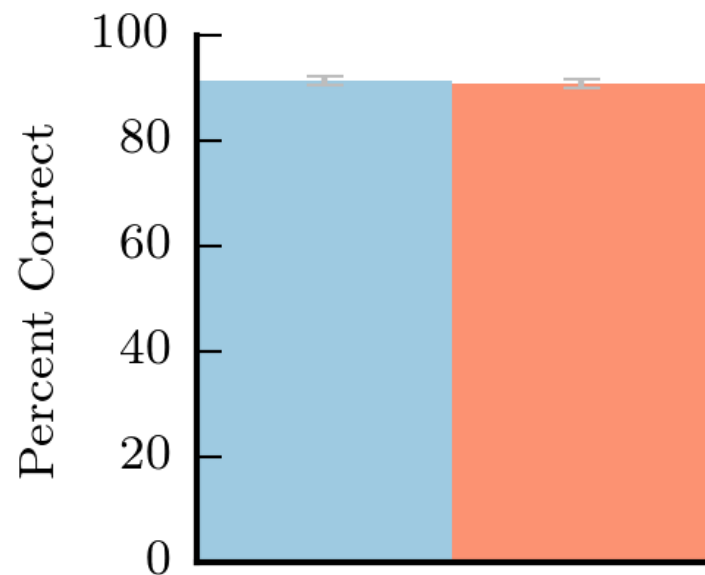
I am Not Sure



About Equal

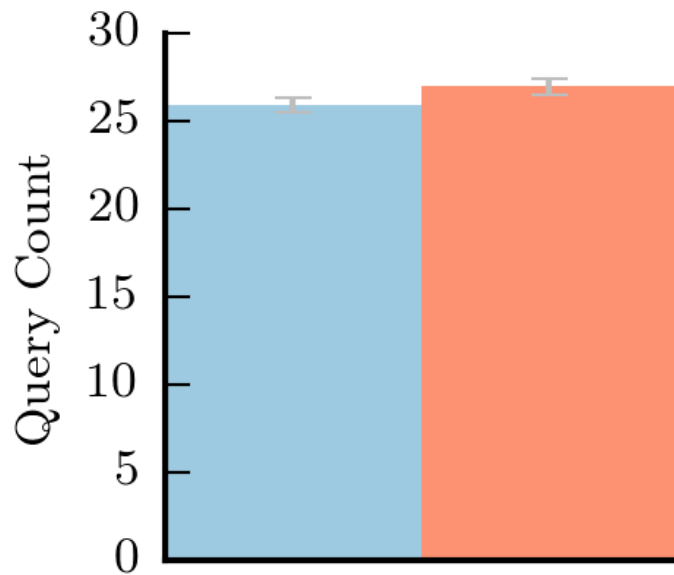


About Equal  
I am not Sure

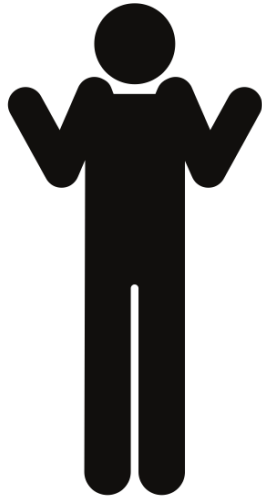




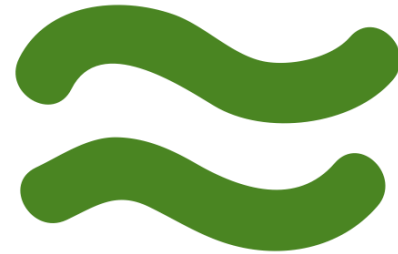
About Equal  
I am not Sure

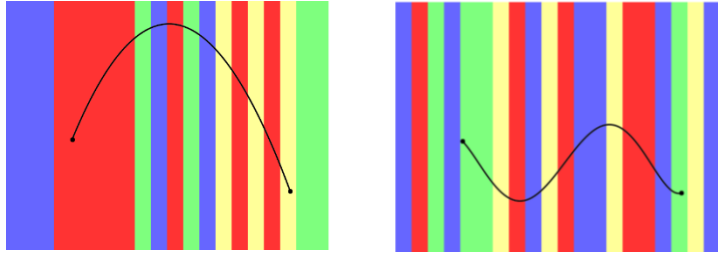


I am Not Sure



About Equal

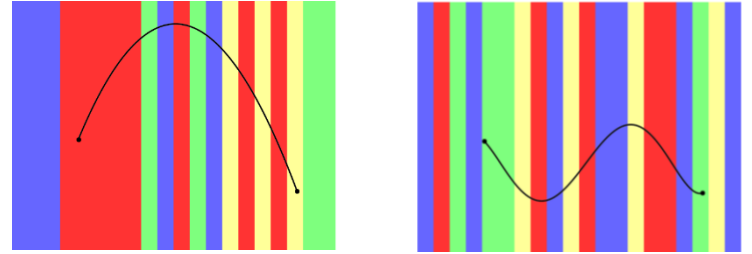




Left

Right

*vs.*



Left

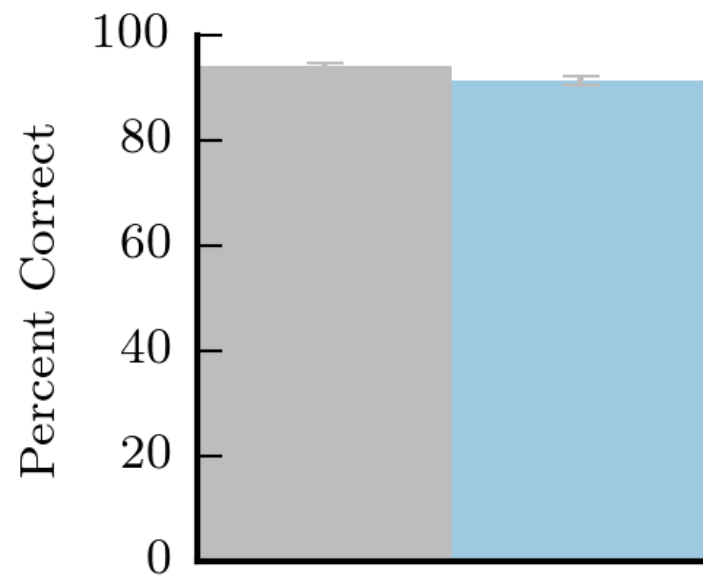
About  
Equal

Right

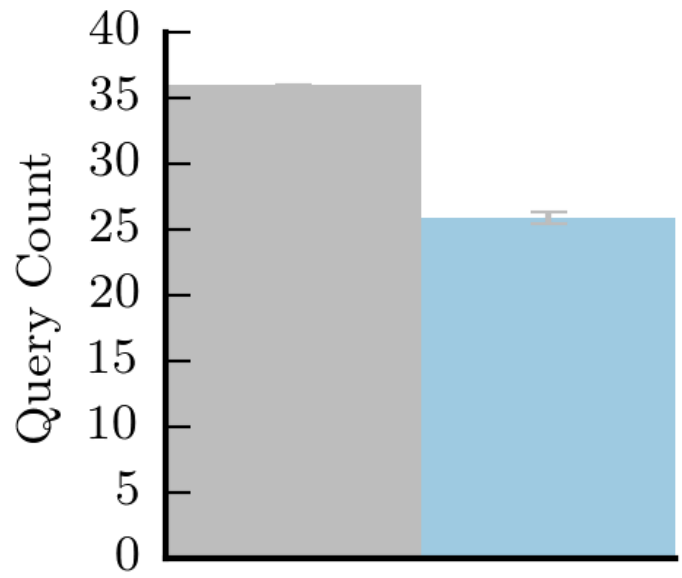
*Forced Preference*

*Uncertain Preference*

Forced  
Uncertain



Forced  
Uncertain



*Key Insight*

*The user's **uncertainty** is  
**informative** about their cost function*

# Active Comparison Based Learning Incorporating User Uncertainty and Noise

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