



CREB Centre de Recerca en Enginyeria Biomèdica  
UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA DE CATALUNYA

# *Course: Medical Robotics*

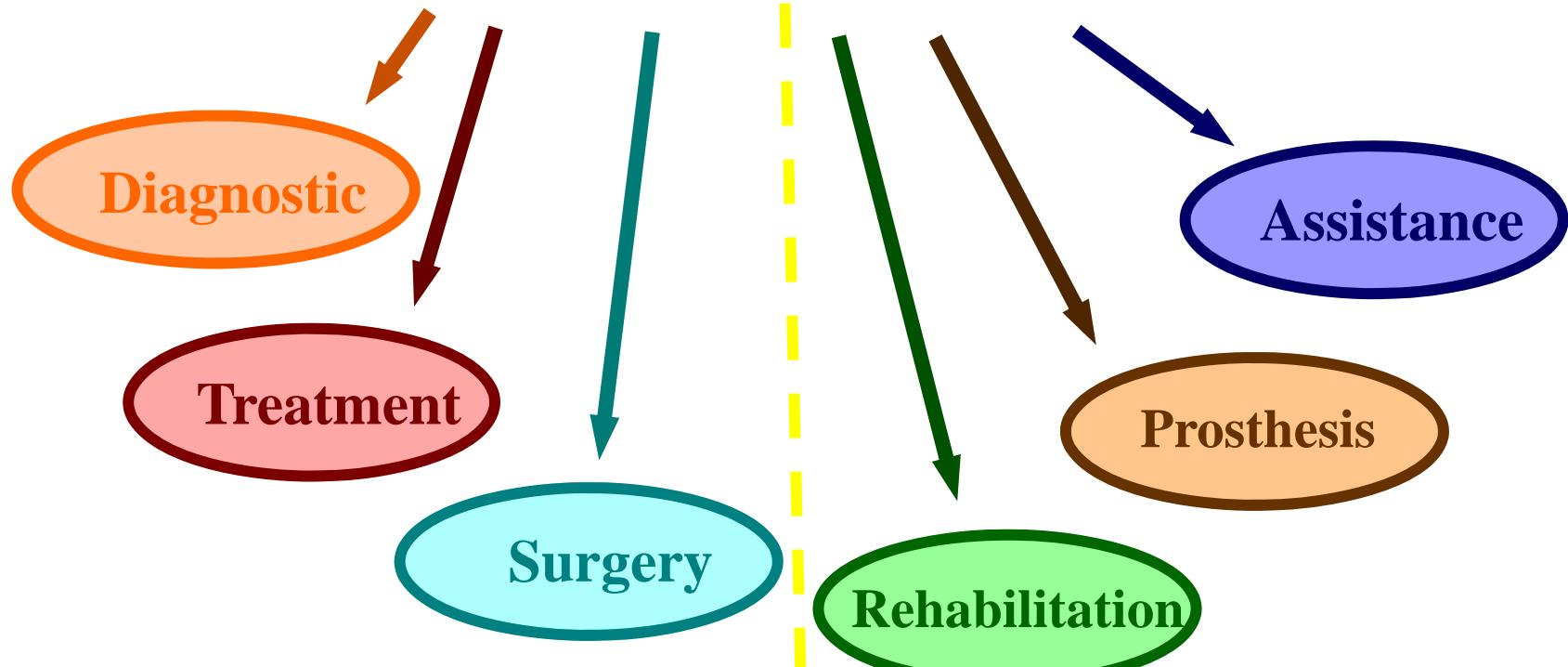
## PART I: Assistance and Rehabilitation

Alícia Casals

**Master in Medical Image and Applications (MAIA)**



## **Robotics Application Fields in Medicine**



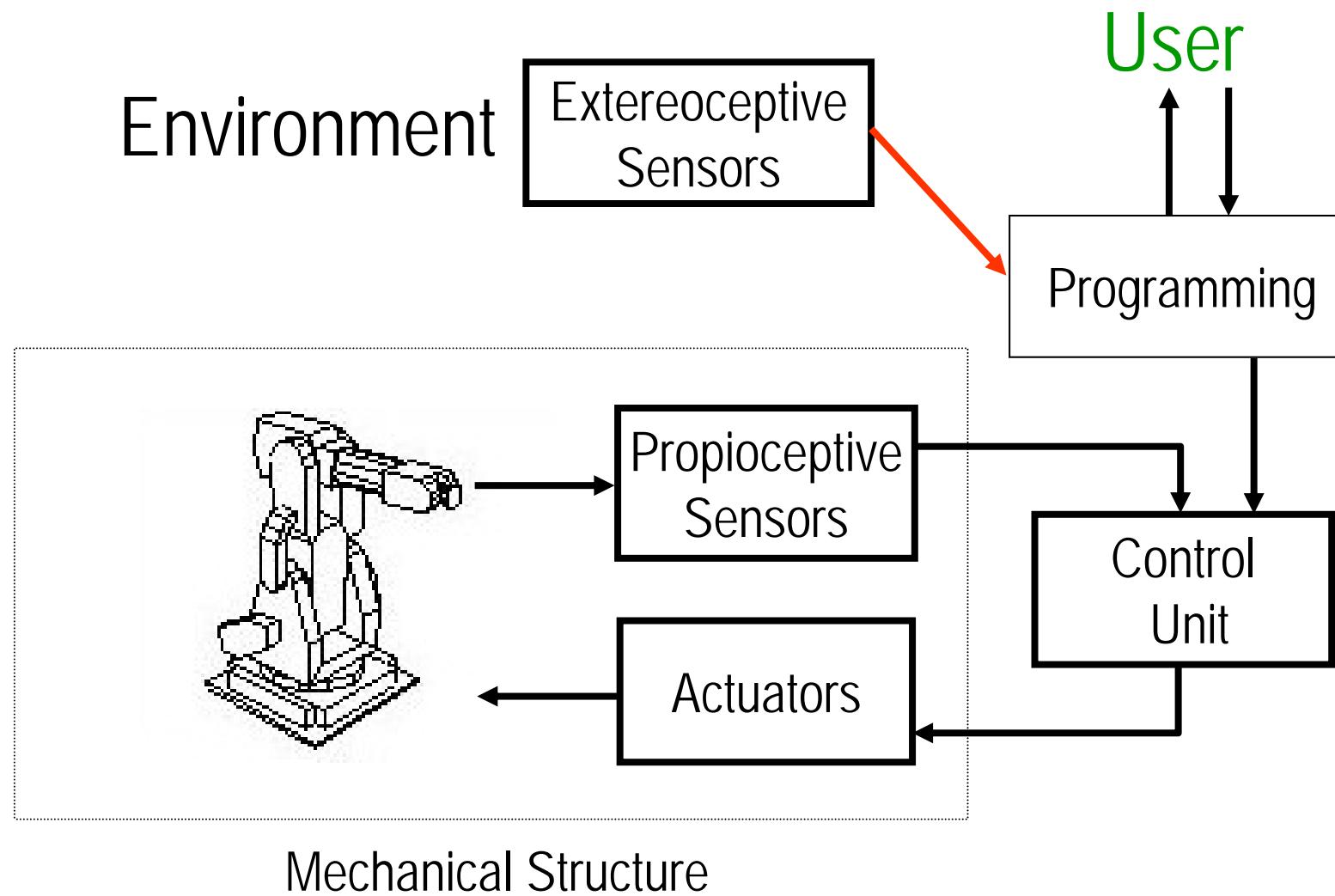
Assistance to the surgeon

Assistance to the elder  
or disabled

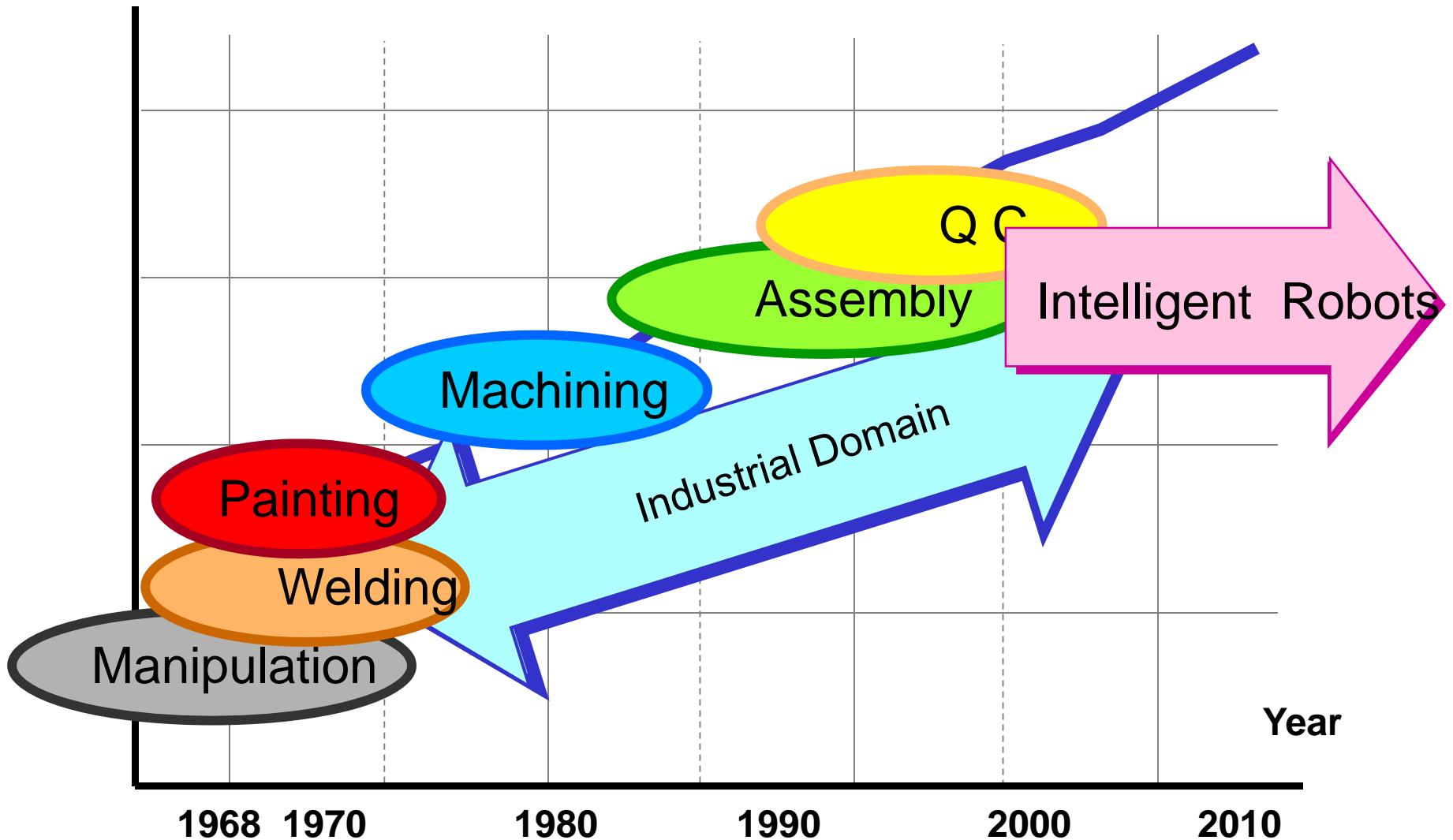
# Contents

- Introduction
- Assistive Robotics
- Rehabilitation Robotics
- Surgical Robotics (Part II)

# Elements of a Robot



# Applications Evolution



# **INDUSTRIAL ROBOTS**

## **VERSUS**

# **SERVICE AND MEDICAL ROBOTS**

Structured, predefined “Natural” environment

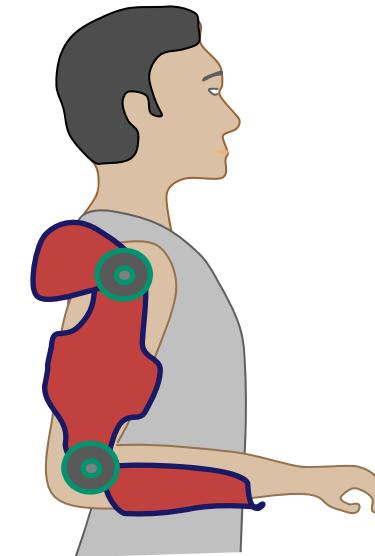
- known environment
- unknown environment
- human safety
- humans in the loop
- mobile base
- specific architectures

# INDUSTRIAL ROBOTS VERSUS SERVICE AND MEDICAL ROBOTS

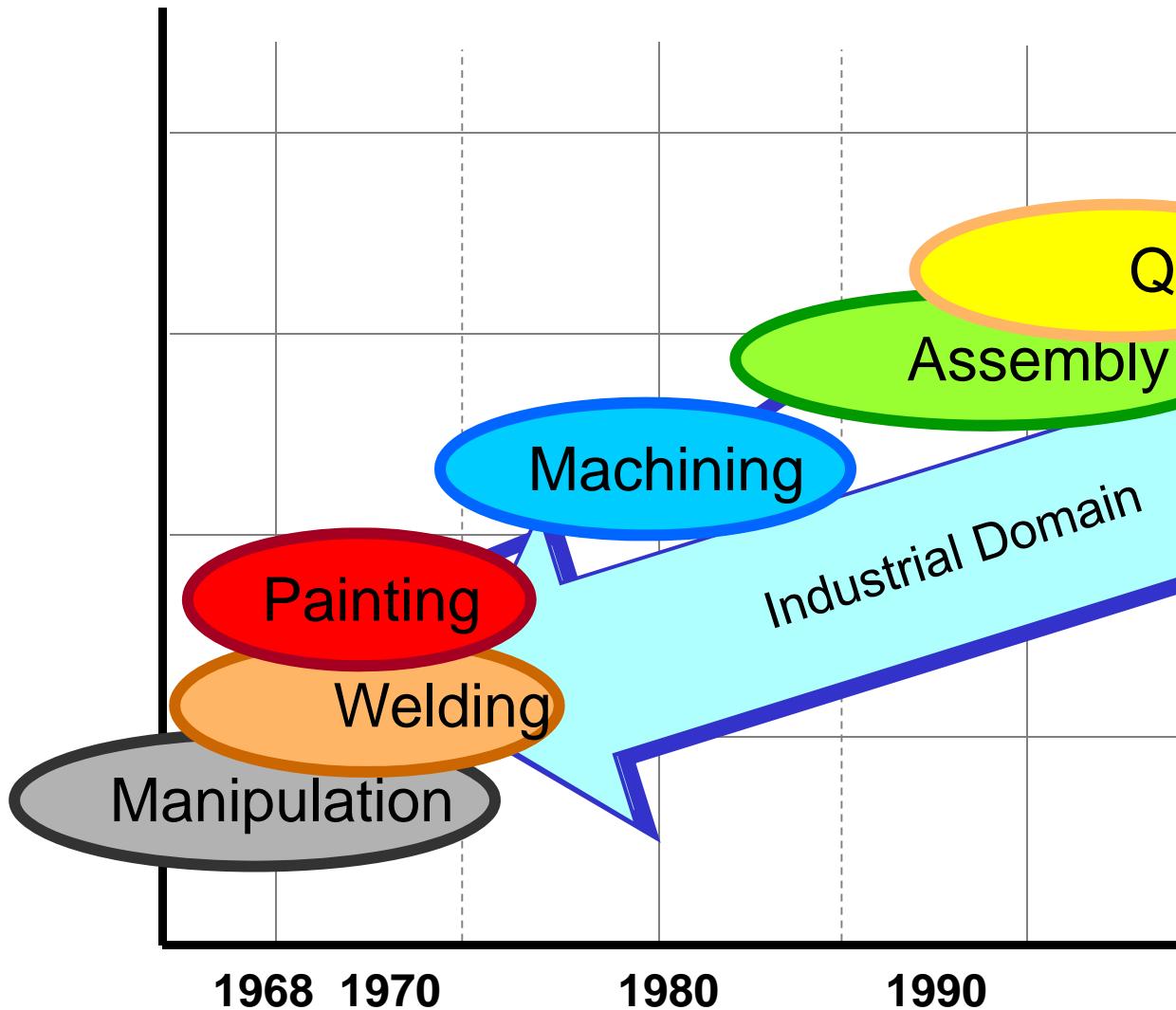
Structured, predefined  
- known environment



“Natural” environment



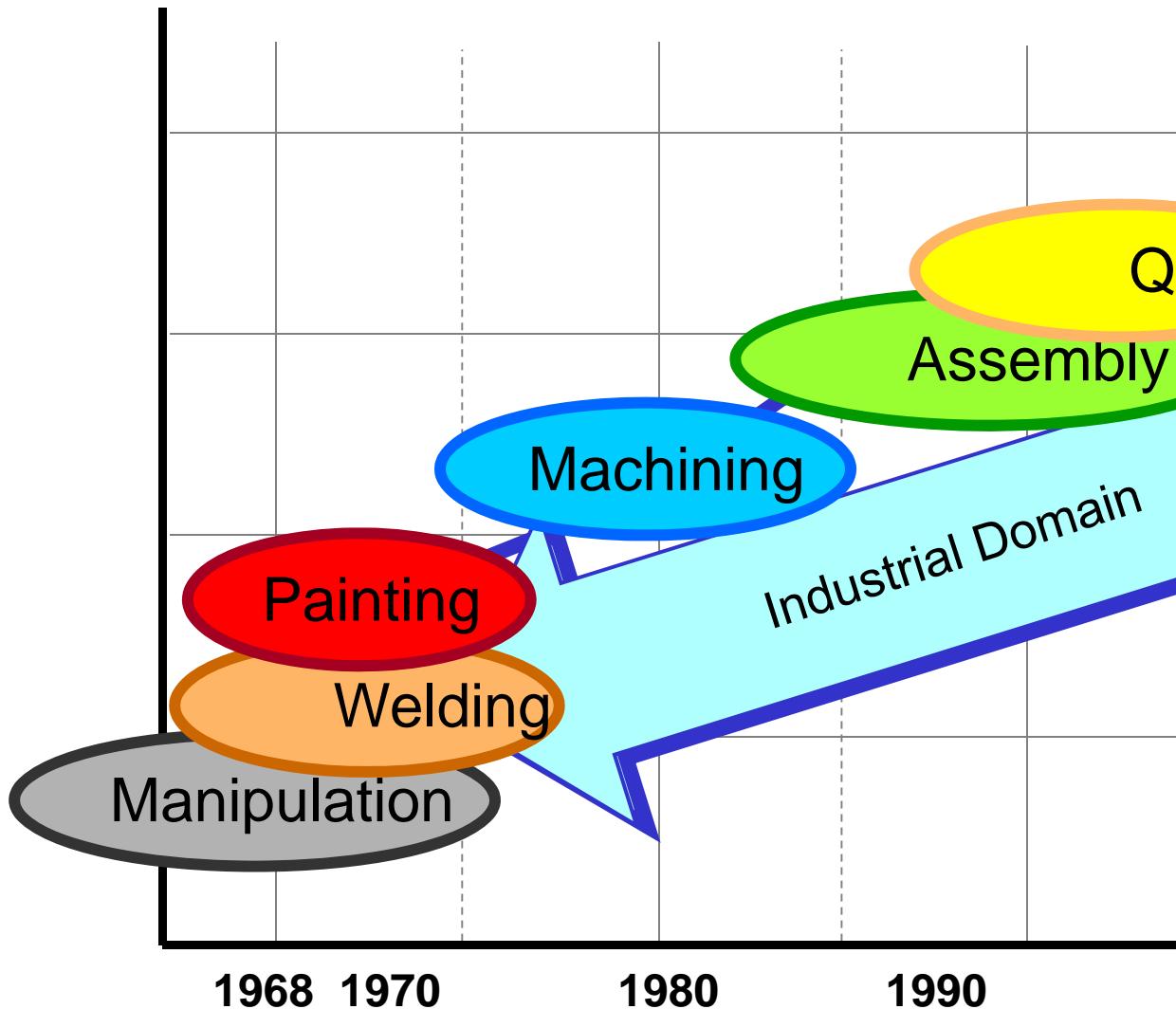
# Applications Evolution



- *Autonomous*

- *Interacting  
with humans  
(cooperation)*

# Applications Evolution



*Cognitive sciences*

*Psychology*

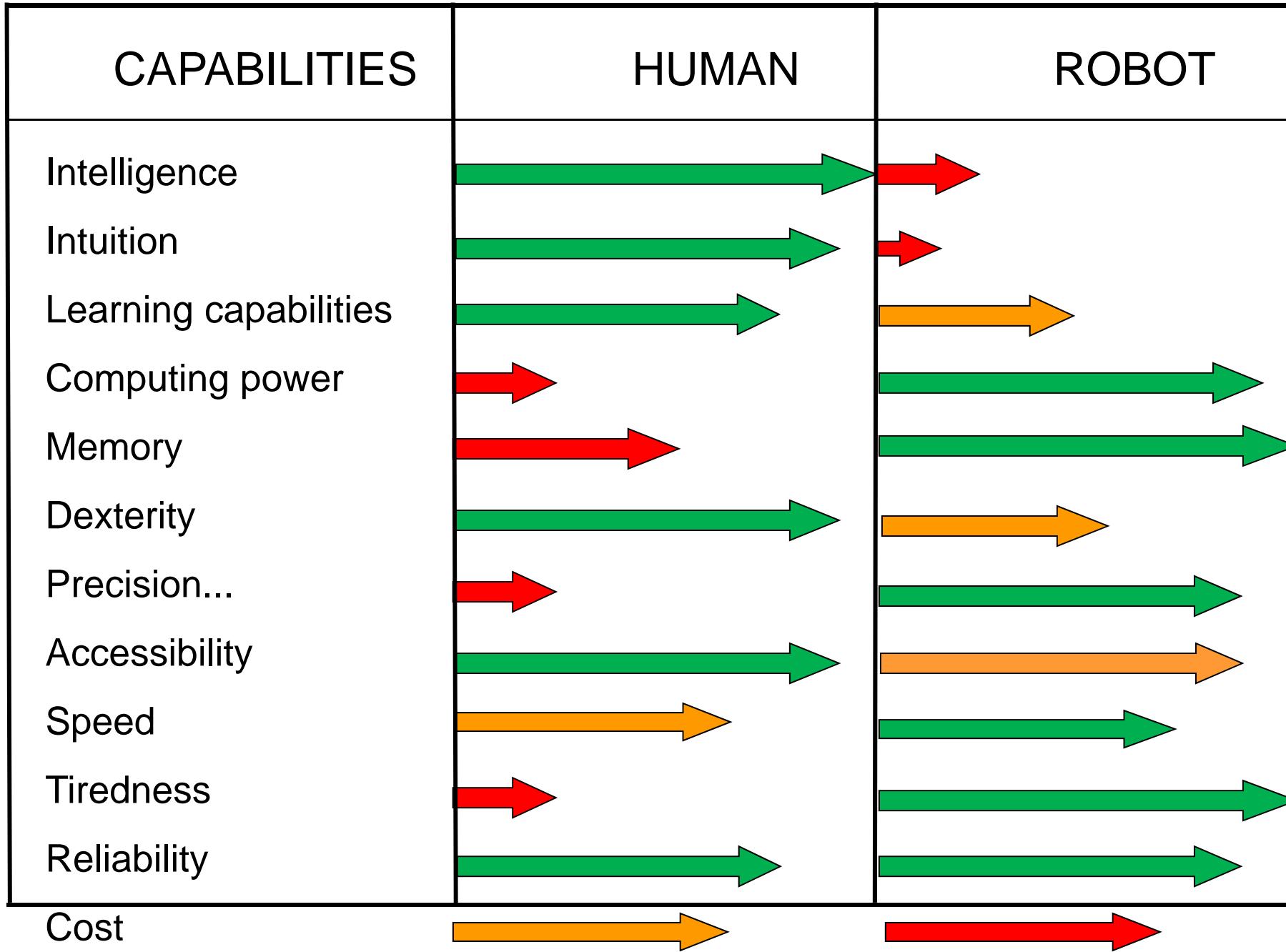
*Neuroscience*

*Ergonomics*

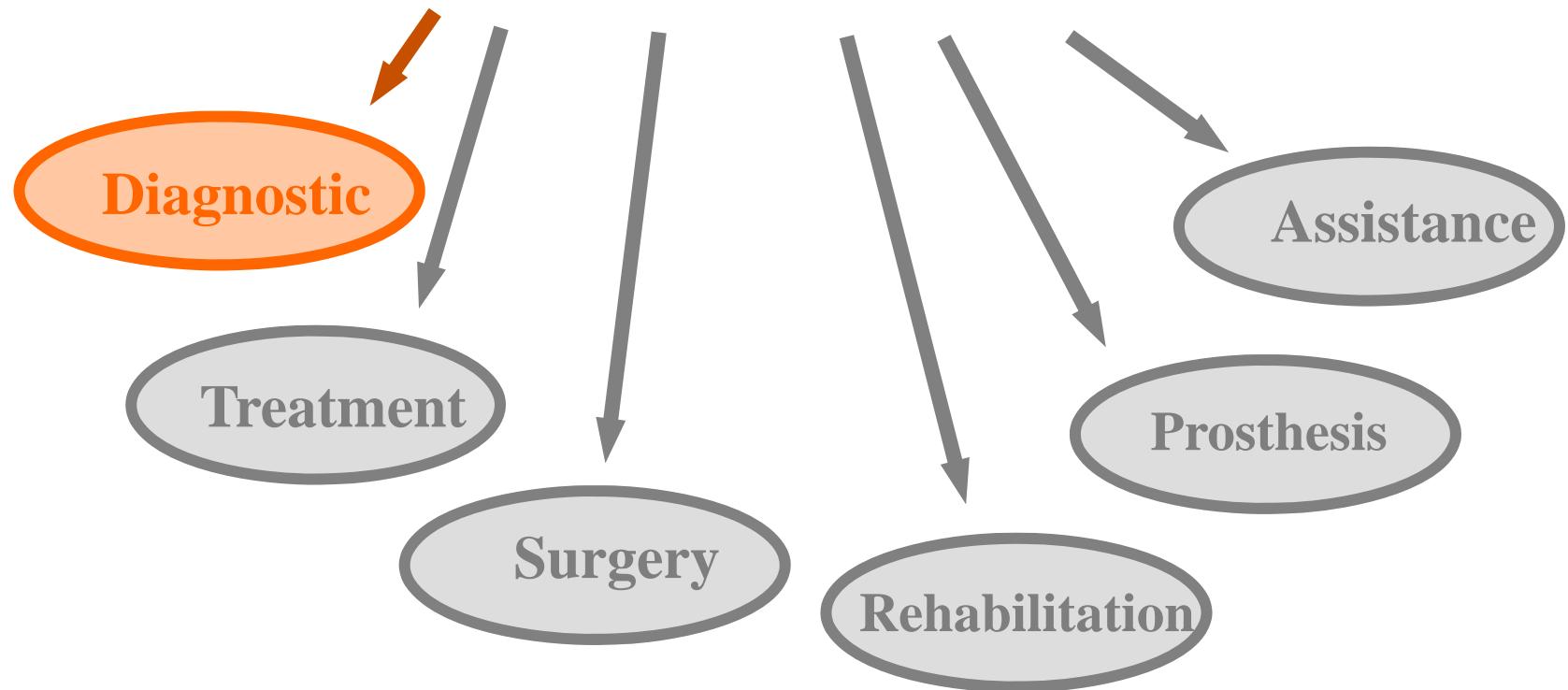
*Sociology*

*Ethics*

...



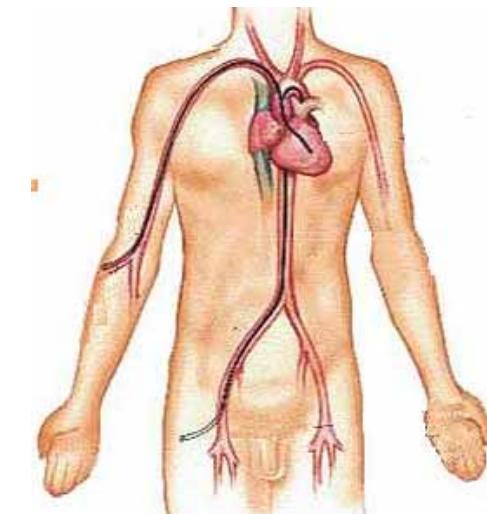
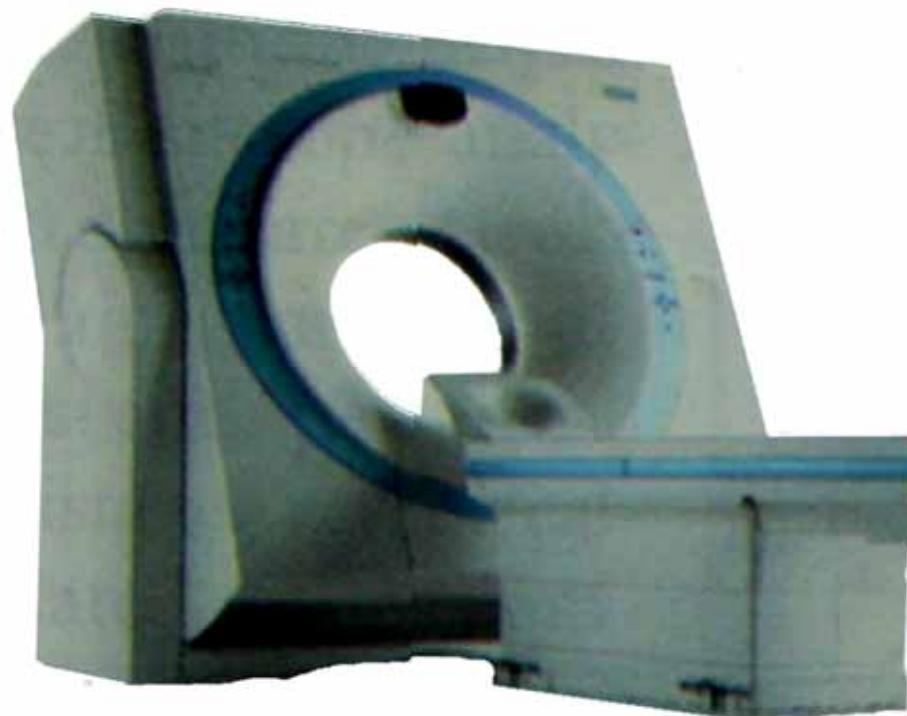
## **Robotics Application Fields in Medicine**



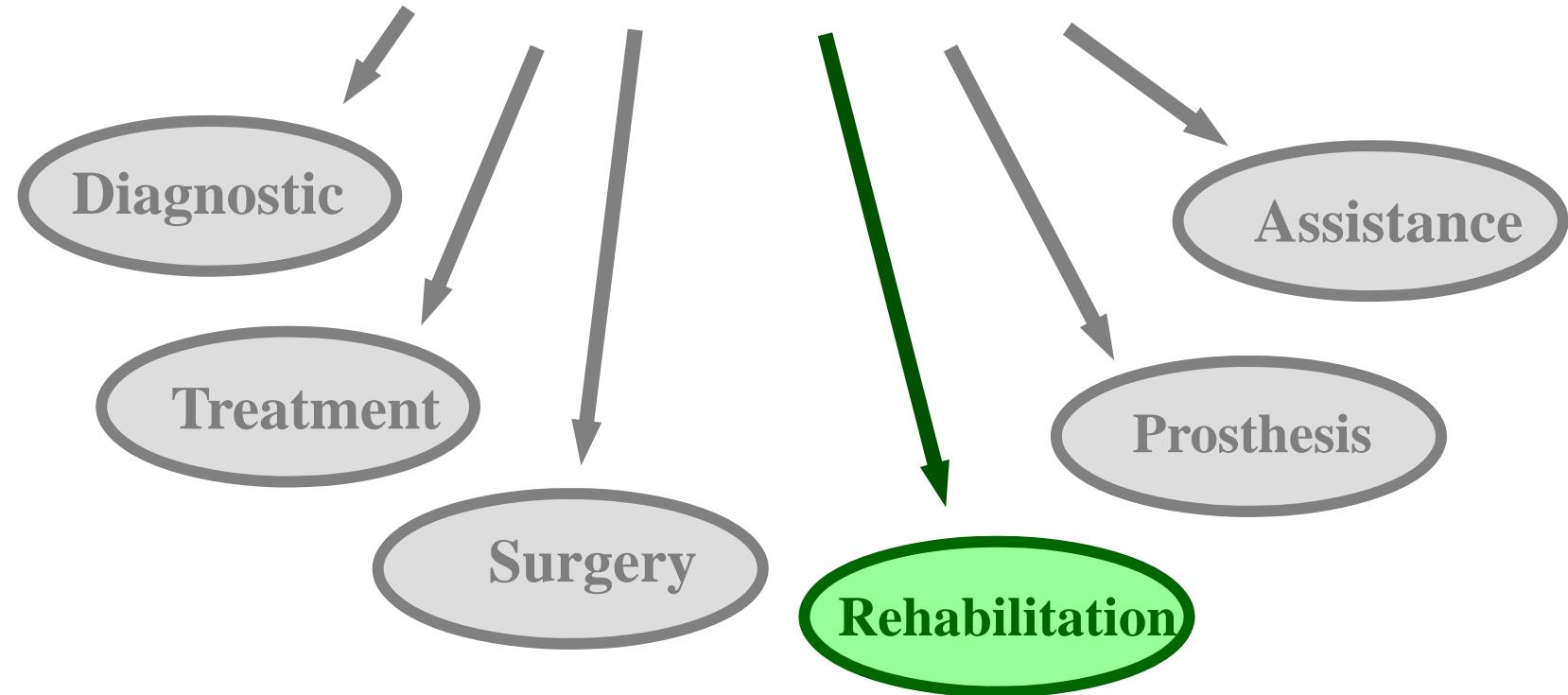
# **Internal observation:**

Medical Imaging and

Microrobots and microsystems



## **Robotics Application Fields in Surgery**



# Motor Disorders

## Effects of motor disorders

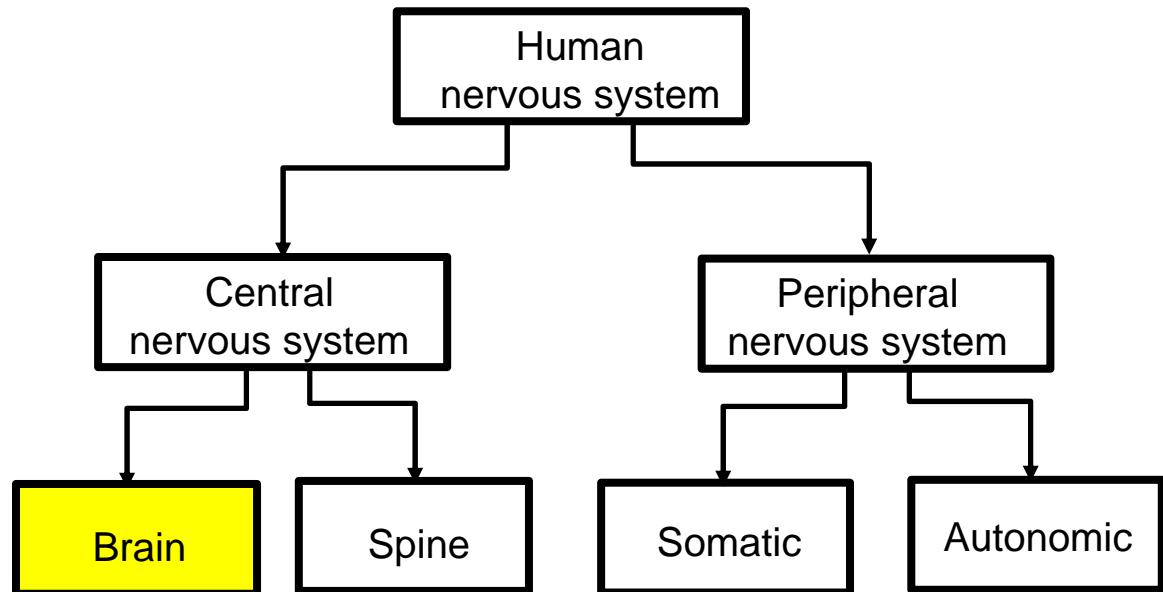
- Poor muscle control
- Pain or weakness
- Difficulty in reaching objects
- Difficulty in doing complex manipulation
- Mobility control and performance

# Motor Disorders

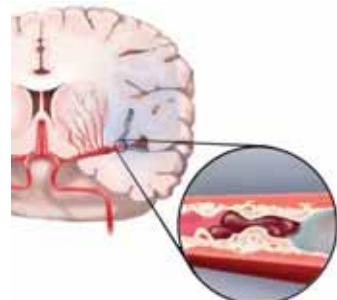
## Causes of Impairment

- Trauma, orthopedic
- Central Nervous System (CNS) / Peripheral Nervous System (PNS)
- Muscular
- Diseases

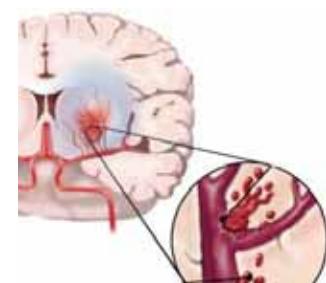
May also cause cognitive impairments



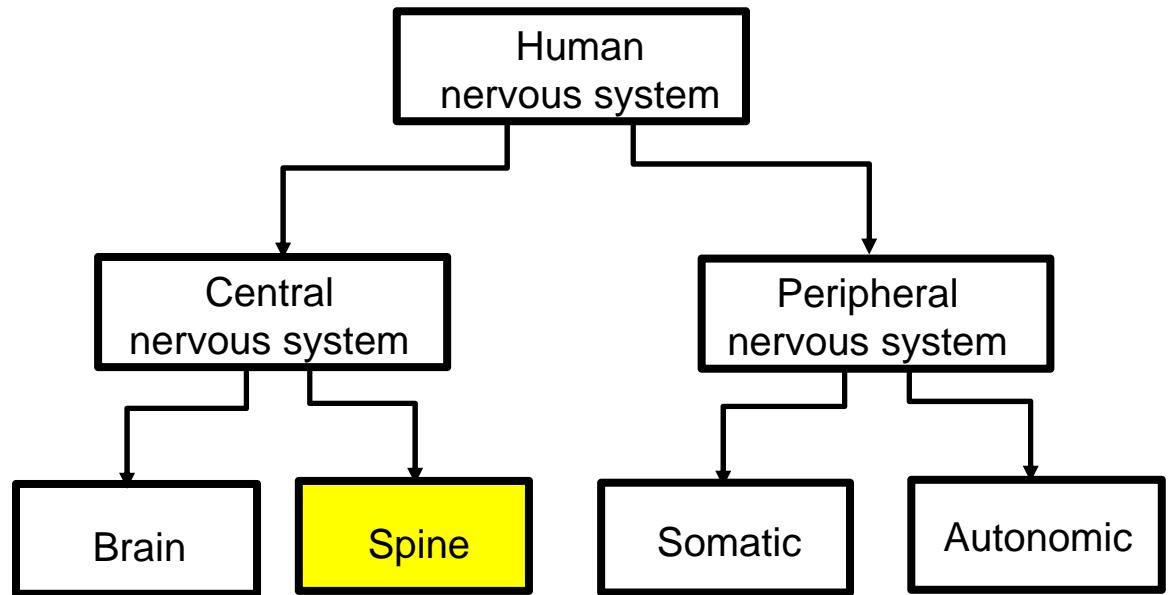
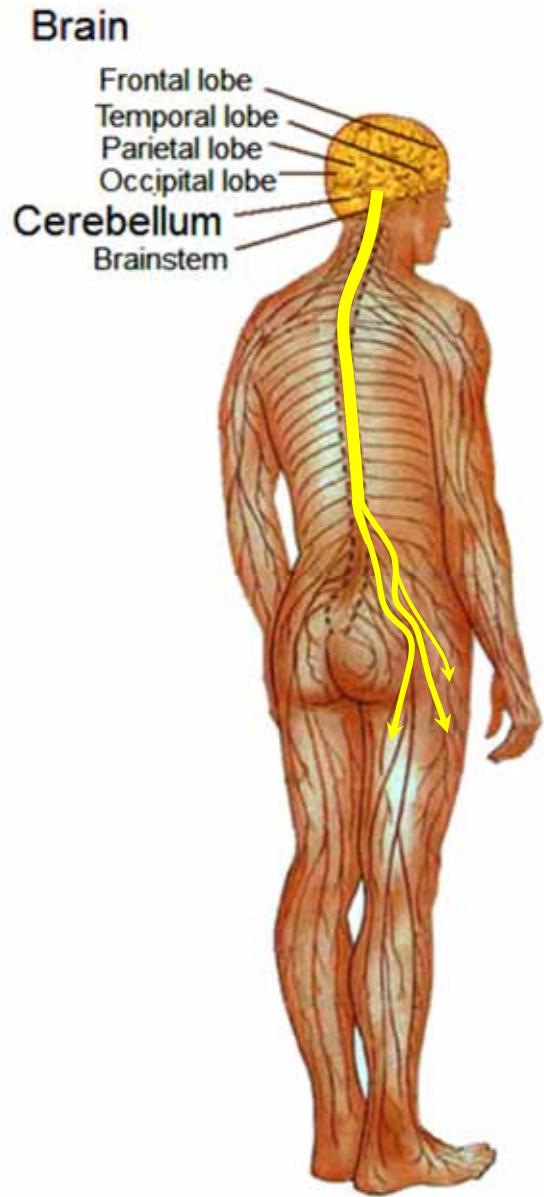
CVA (Cerebral Vascular Accident) / Stroke



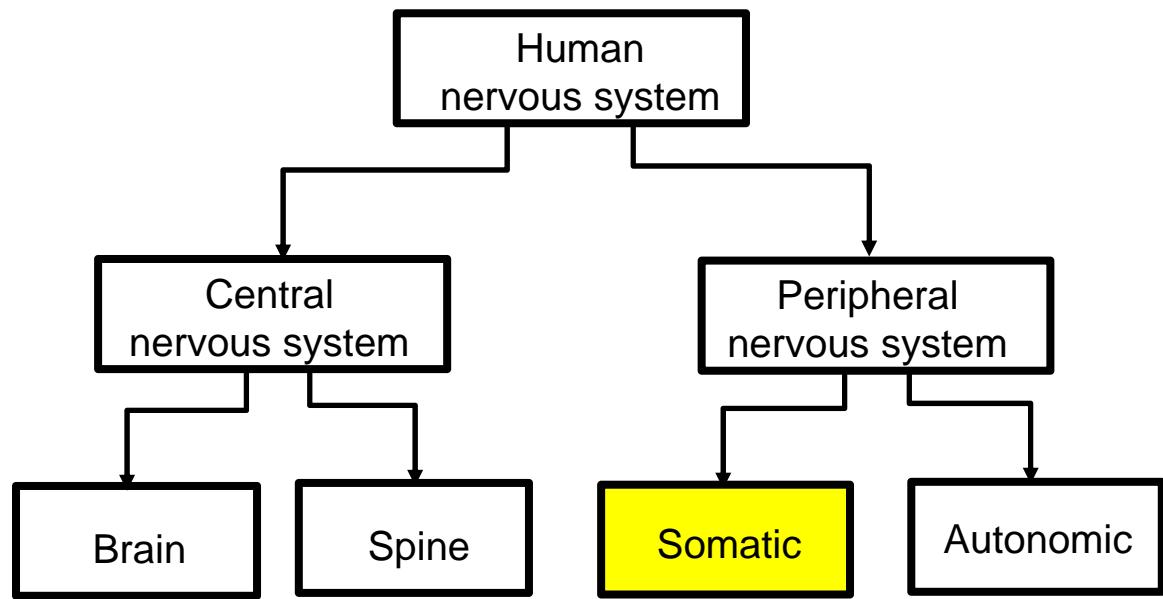
ischemia



hemorrhagic



SCI  
Spinal Cord Injury

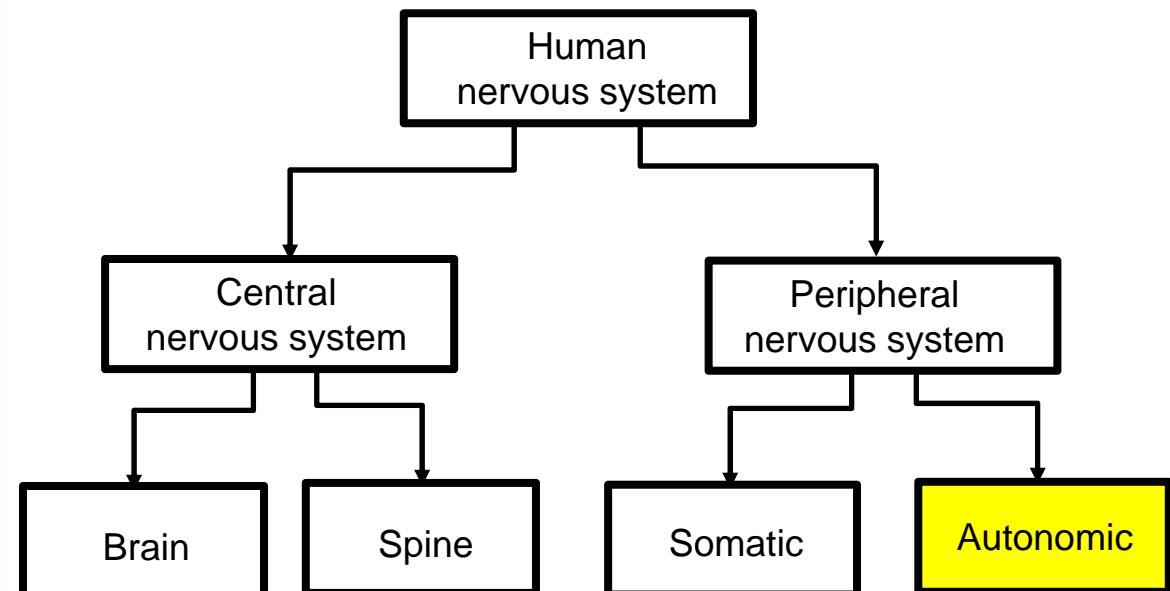


CVA / Stroke

SCI

Voluntary  
movements and  
reflex actions,  
perception

*Afferent /sensory nerves  
Efferent/motor nerves*



Involuntary movements  
and functions

# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation

- Upper limbs
  - Hand support
  - Exoskeleton
- Lower limbs
  - Hand support
  - Exoskeleton
  - Treadmill



# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Upper limbs

Improve physical and cognitive capabilities



Active impedance

Objectives.

- Make exercises engaging the user (Images)
- Offer an adjustable resistance (Impedance Z)
- Amplify the human residual force (Human intention)

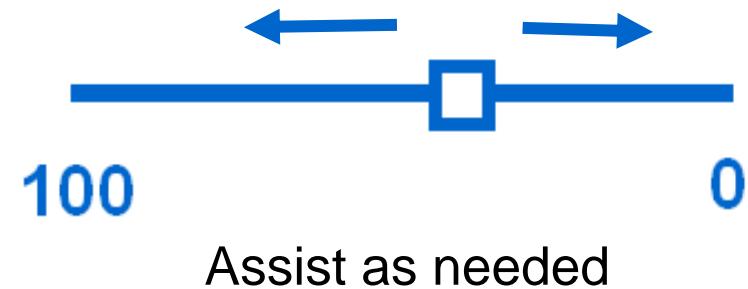
# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Upper limbs

Improve physical and cognitive capabilities



Passive /Active

Physical/ Cognitive



# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Upper limbs

Improve physical and cognitive capabilities

Active impedance



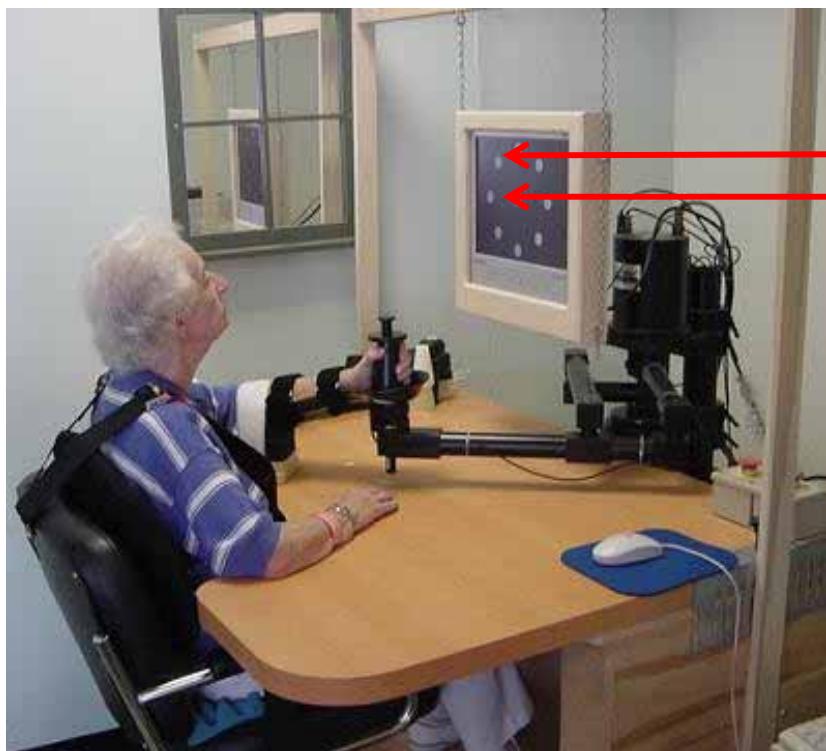
Objectives.

- Make exercises engaging the user (Images)
- Offer an adjustable resistance (Impedance Z)
- Amplify the human residual force (Human intention)

# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Upper limbs

Improve physical and cognitive capabilities

## System for Image generation:



Start exercise:

- a)  $N = 0$
- b) Select a random destination
- c) Visualize the movement to be executed
- d) Evaluate the action (time)
- e) If  $N = K$  End exercise
- f)  $N = N + 1$

# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Upper limbs

Improve physical and cognitive capabilities

Active impedance



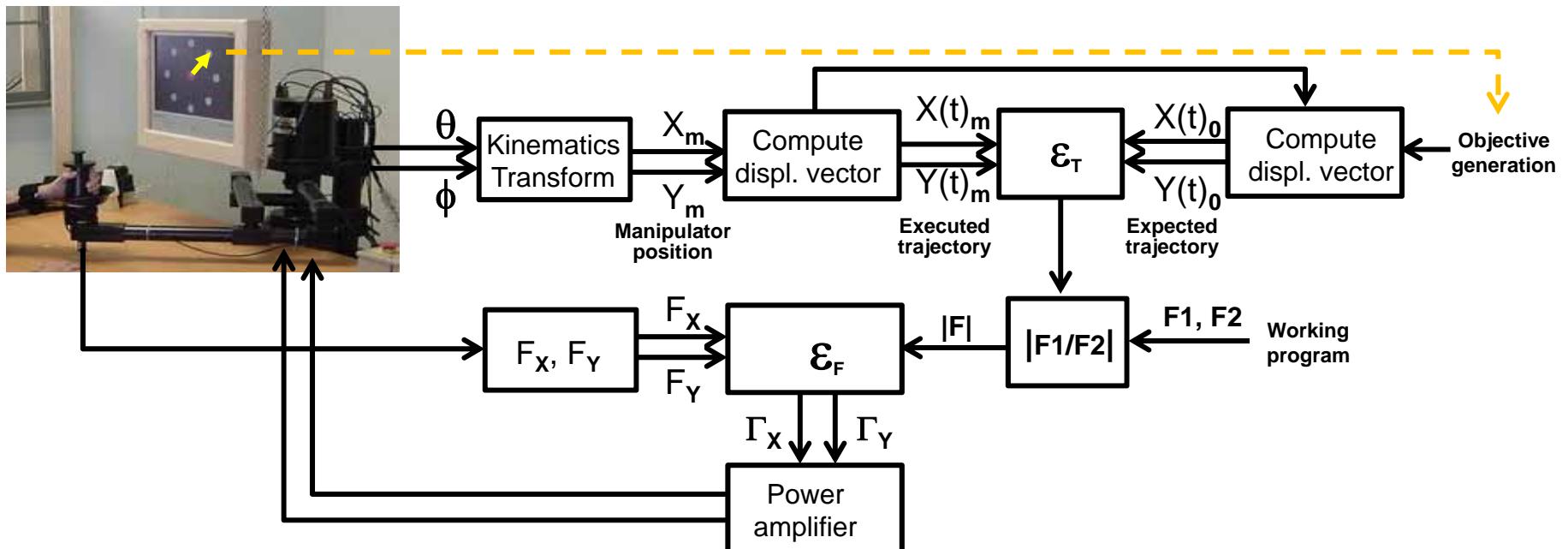
Objectives.

- Make exercises engaging the user (Images)
- Offer an adjustable resistance (Impedance Z)
- Amplify the human residual force (Human intention)

# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Upper limbs

Improve physical and cognitive capabilities

**Offer an adjustable resistance (Impedance Z)**



# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Upper limbs

Improve physical and cognitive capabilities

Active impedance



Objectives.

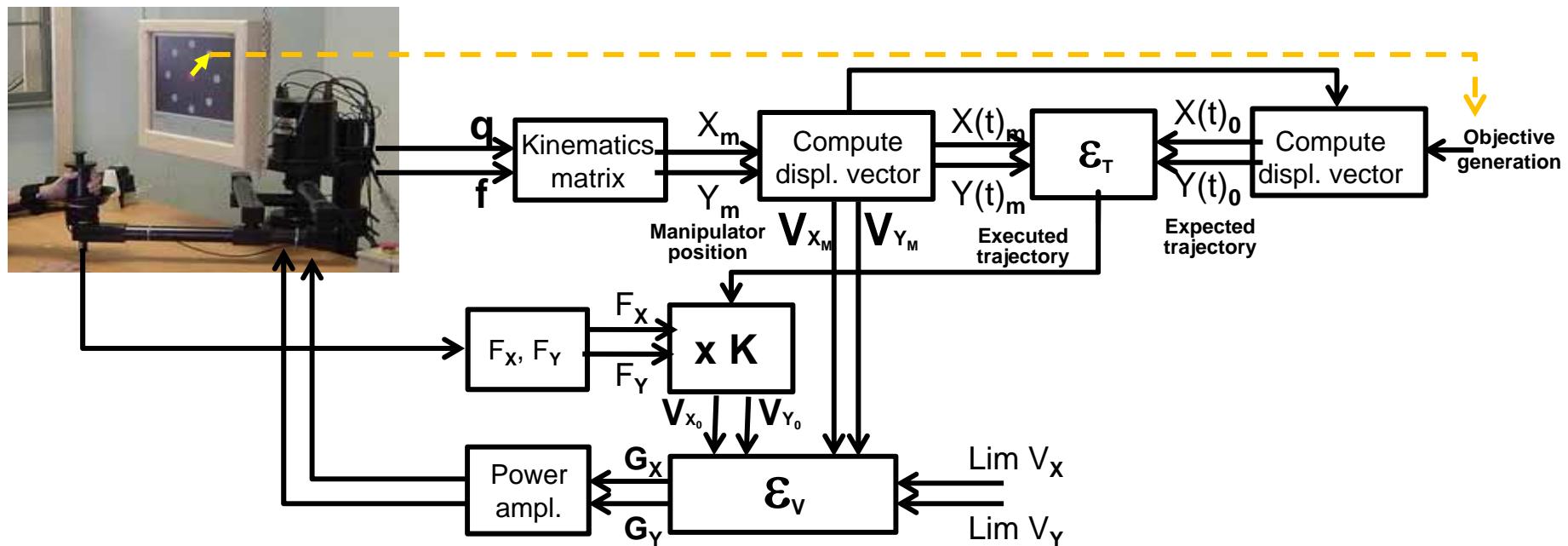
- Make exercises engaging the user (Images)
- Offer an adjustable resistance (Impedance Z)
- Amplify the human residual force (Human intention)

# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Upper limbs

Improve physical and cognitive capabilities

- Amplify the human residual force (Human intention)

**Objective: Help to execute the right trajectory with little intervention if it is correct.**

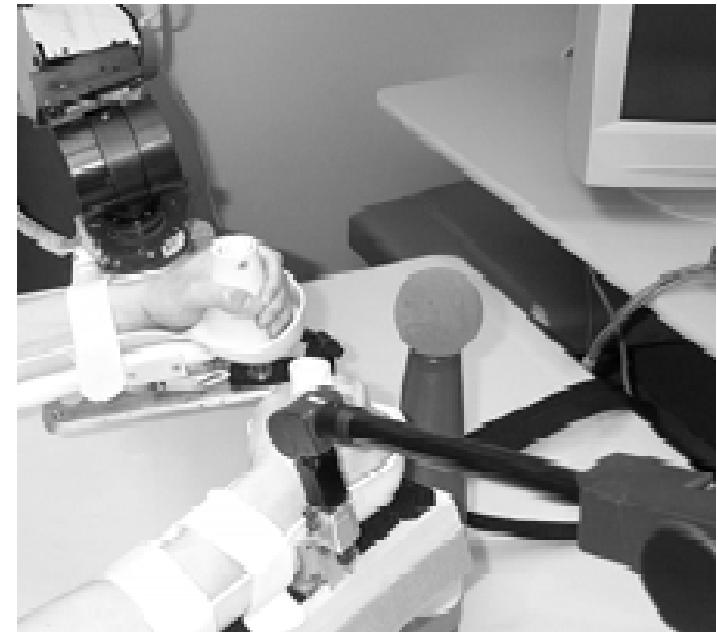


# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Upper limbs

Improve physical and cognitive capabilities

## MIME: Hemiparesis after stroke

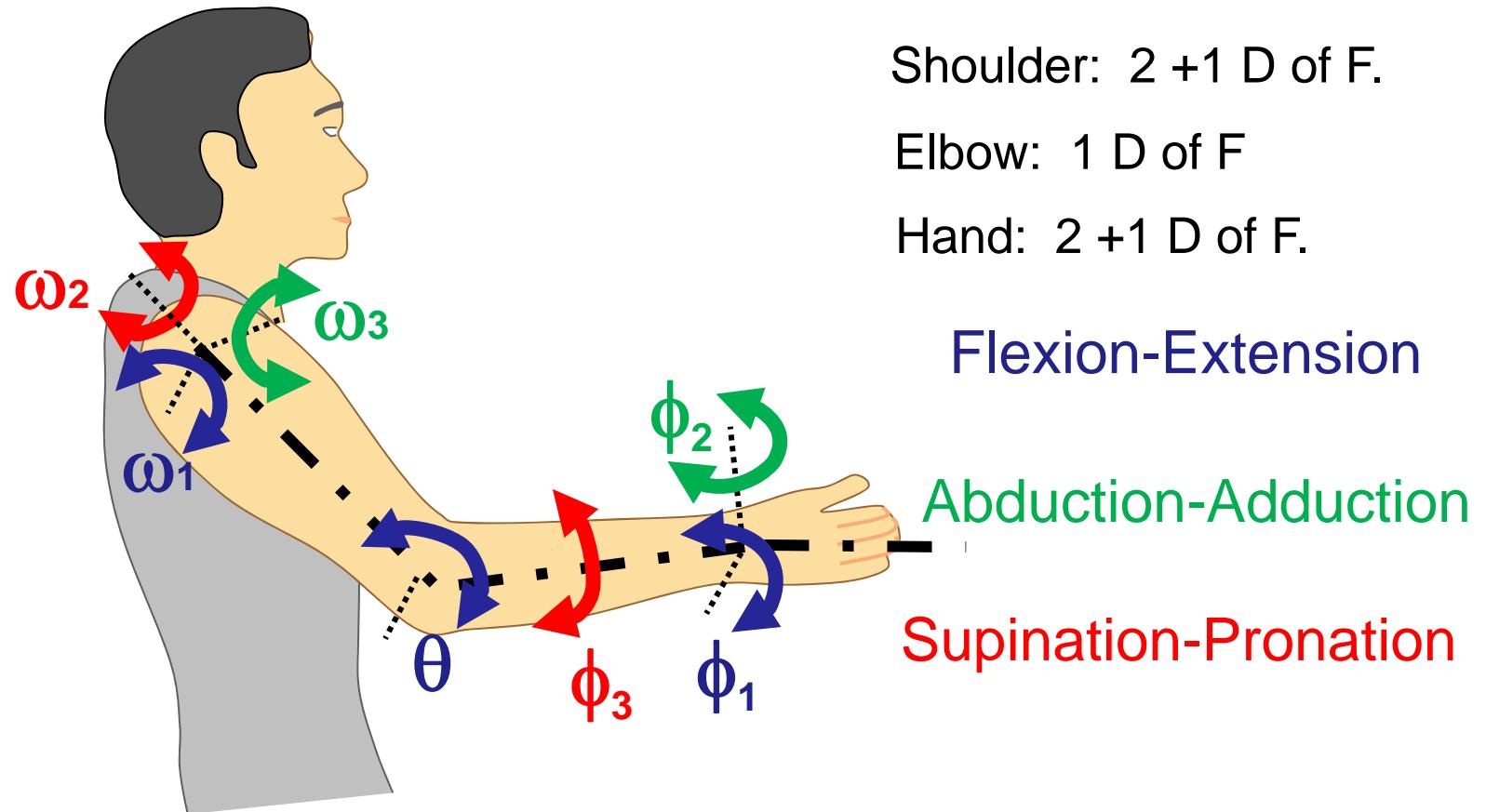
- Therapy modes: passive, active-assisted, active-constrained and bilateral.
- Diminishes spasticity
- Improves arm motor function
- Improves neglect syndrome



# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Upper limbs

Exoskeletons → Human arm

Kinematics anatomic requirements: 5 D of F.



# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Upper limbs

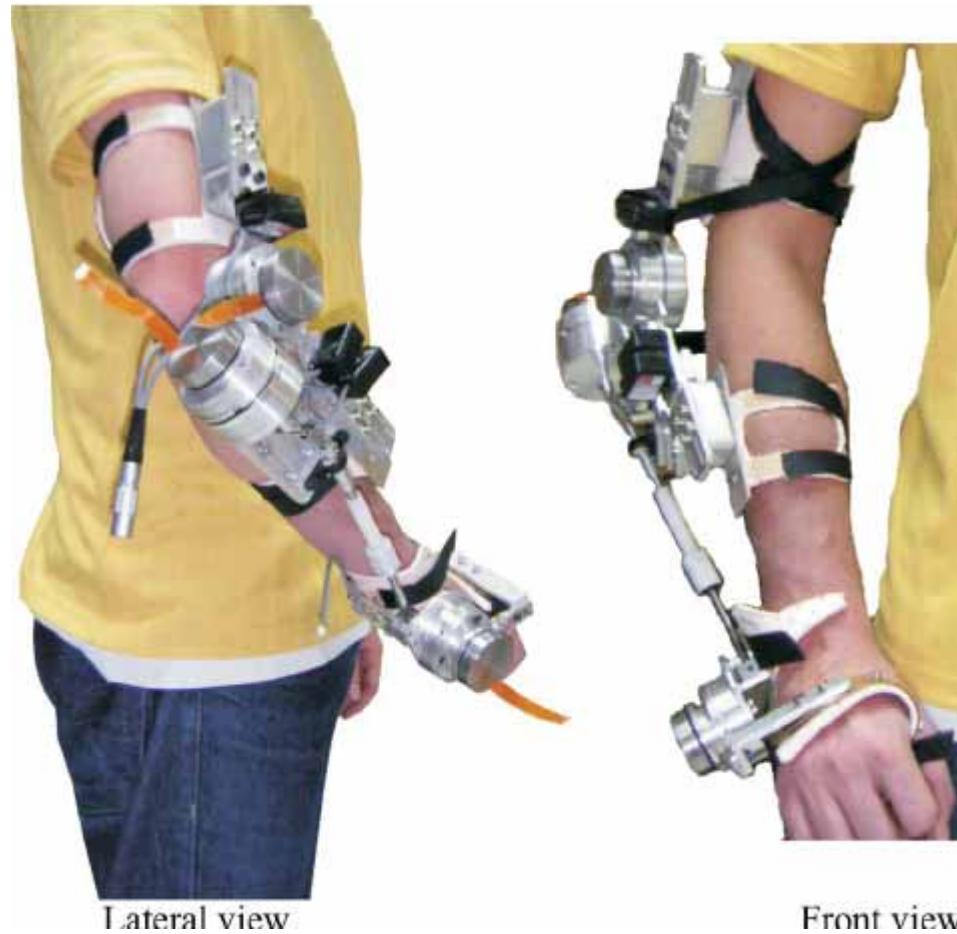
## ARMin: Exoskeleton

- Feedback to increase motivation of the patient.
- Therapy modes are:
  - repeating movement
  - game scenarios
  - training of daily activities.



# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Upper limbs

## Need of Measuring Interaction Forces



Wotas (wearable): Tremor compensation

# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation

- Upper limbs
  - Hand support
  - Exoskeleton
- Lower limbs
  - Hand support
  - Exoskeleton
  - Treadmill

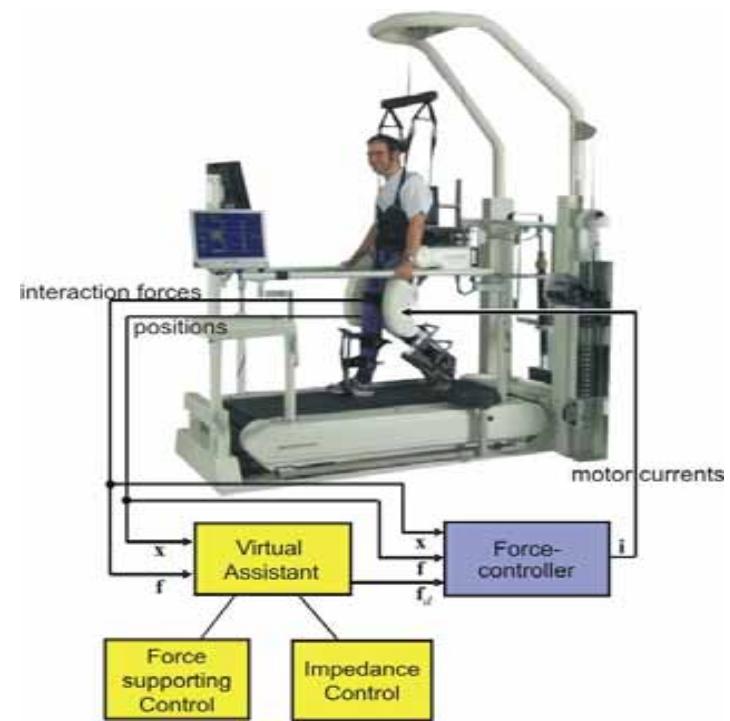
# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Lower limbs

- REHABOT
- Computer control
- Postural Support
- Prescribed weight bearing
- Robotic arm plus an harness with non constrained movements



# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Lower limbs

- LOKOMAT
- Motor Driven Exoskeleton Device
- Automated Tasks
- Position controlled trajectories that mimic normal human gait patterns
- Cooperative Control Strategies
- Gait patterns adapted to the patient
- Impedance Control
- Sensors in the motors provide an indirect indicator of the amount of effort the patient is generating



# Lokomat

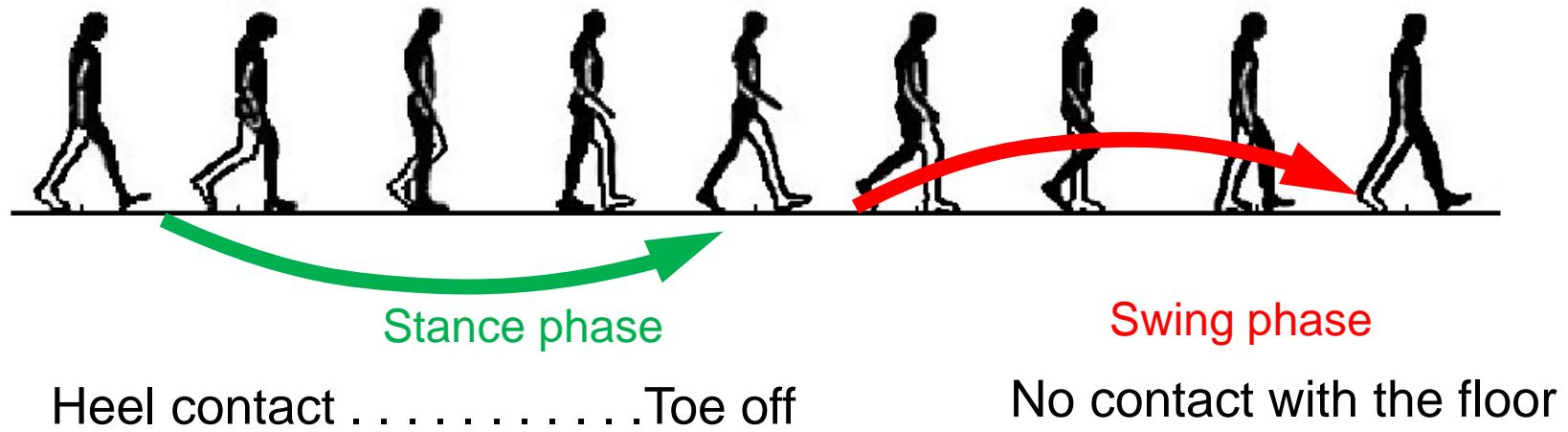


Exoskeleton + Treadmill + Body support

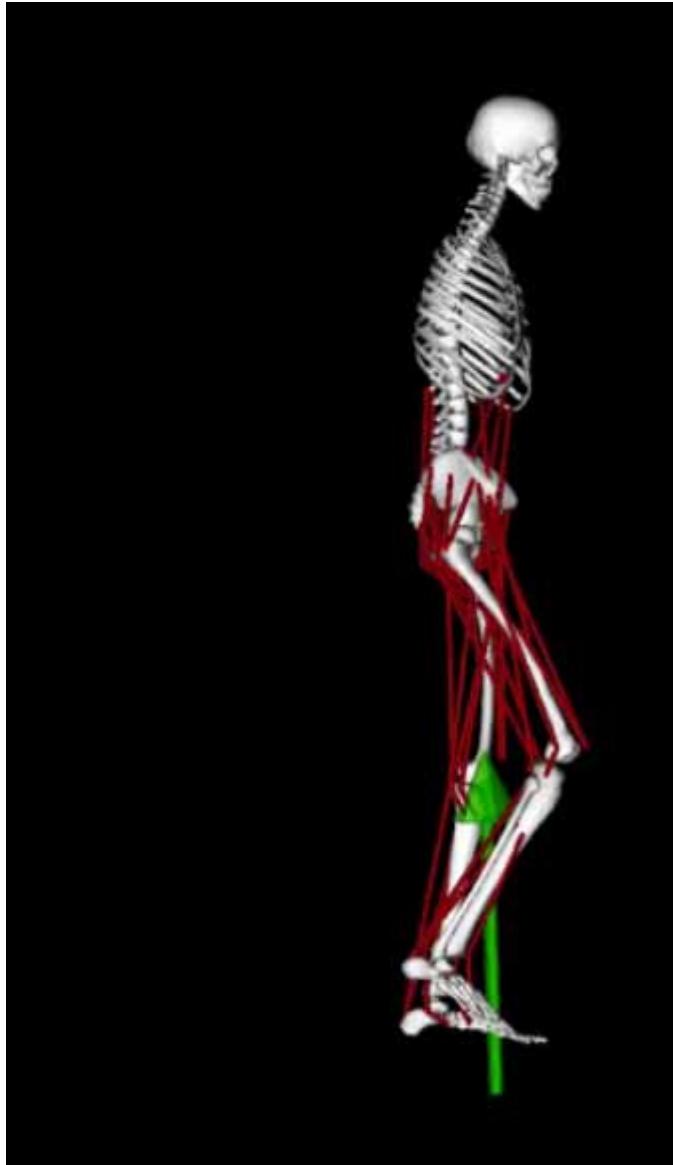


Treadmill (speed control)

# Gait patterns



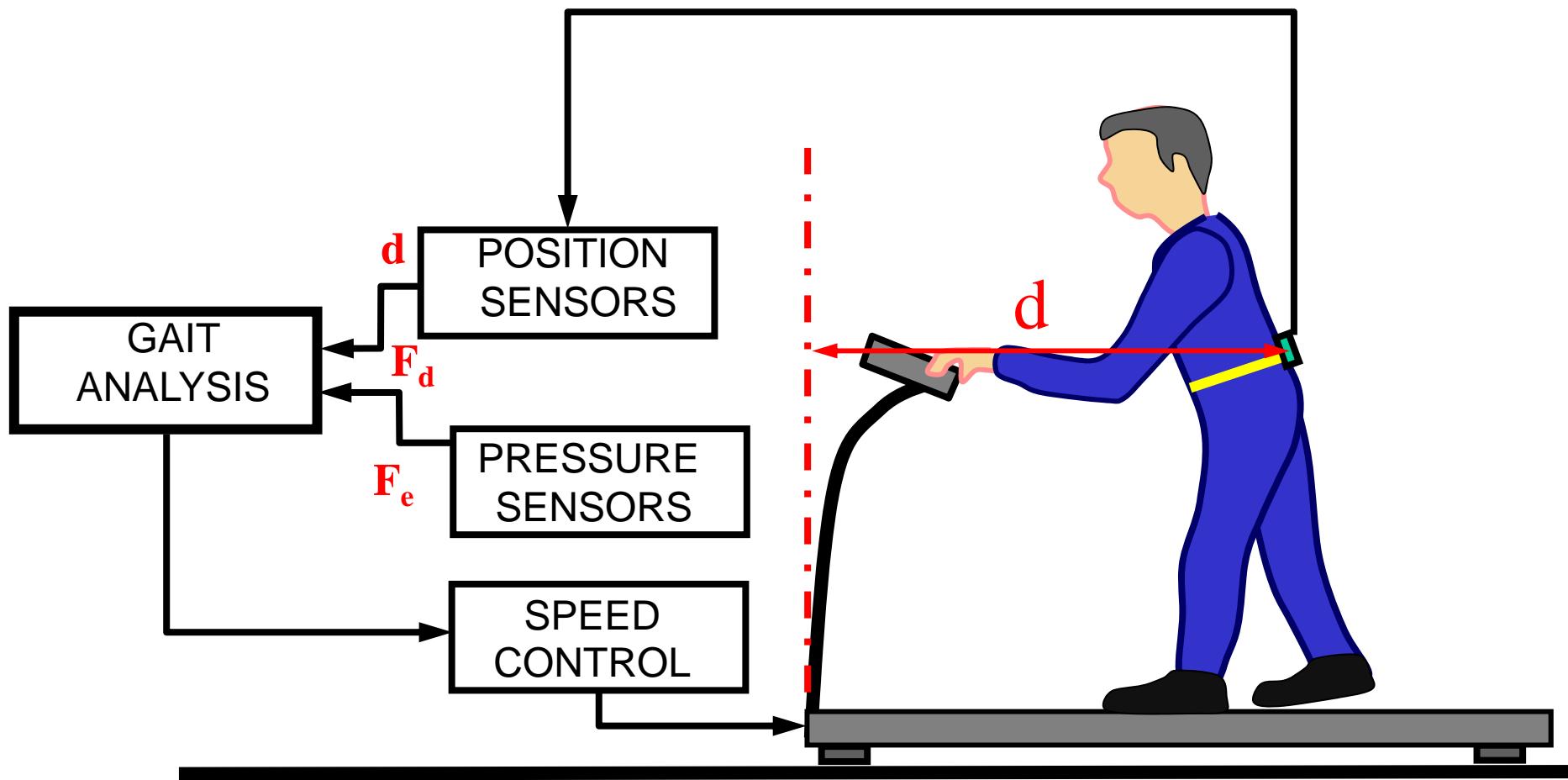
- Step length
- Stride
- Walking base
- Cadence
- ...



# OPENSIM

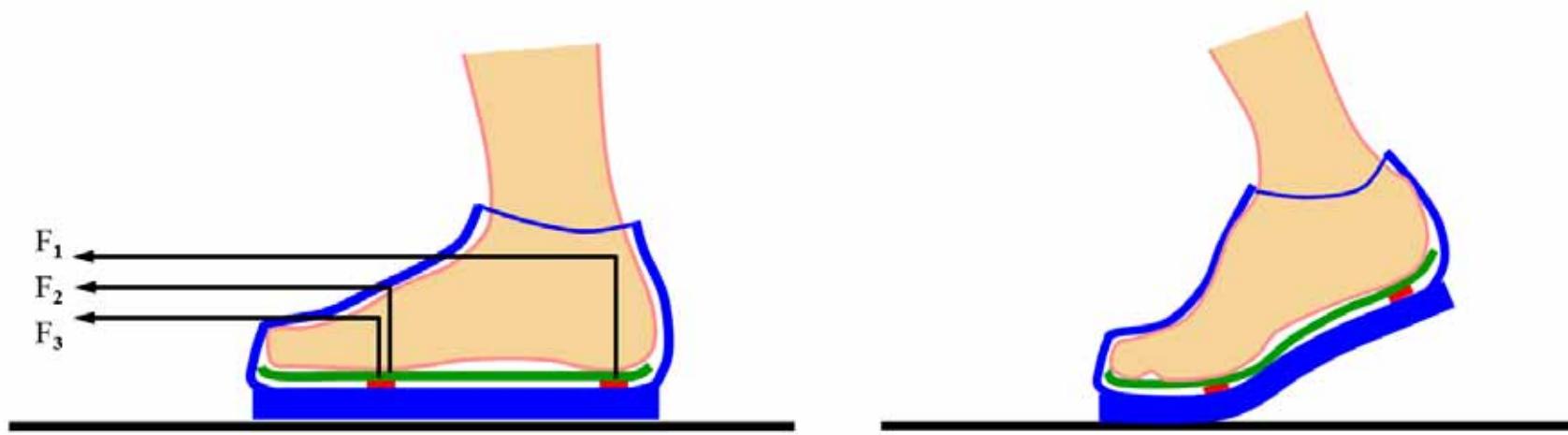
Library for analysis  
of the  
musculoskeletal  
behavior

# CONTROL OF TREADMILL FROM USER'S MOVEMENTS



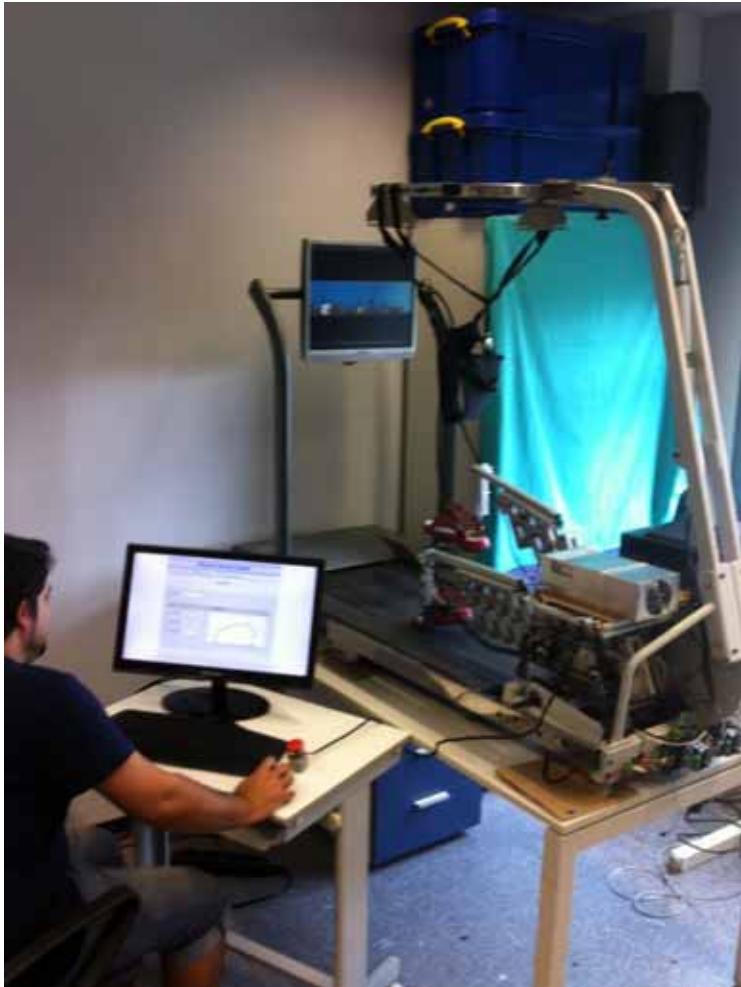
# CONTROL OF TREADMILL FROM USER'S MOVEMENTS

Pressure sensors (soil)



# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Lower limbs

## CAMPE



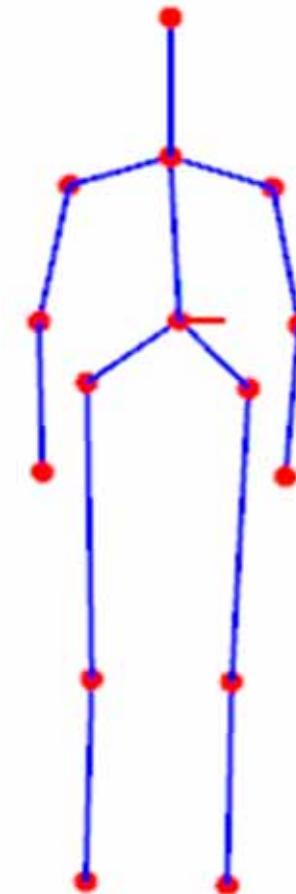
Programming the gait

# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Lower limbs



# Body posture detection

Optical markers/ 3D cameras



# Body posture detection

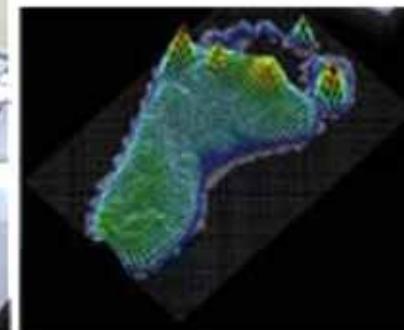
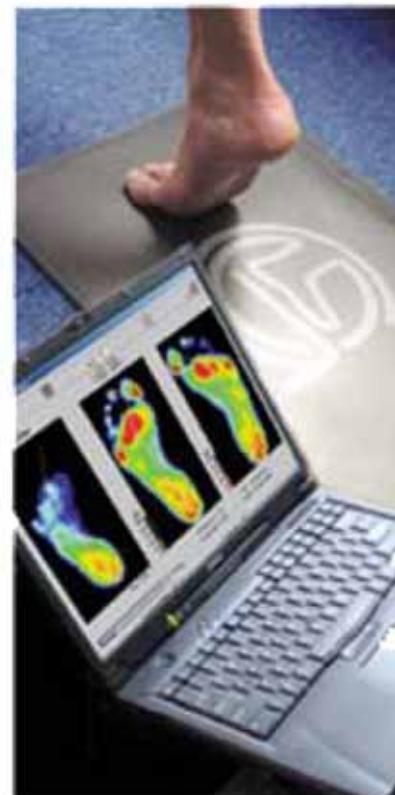
Electrogoniometers

Optical markers

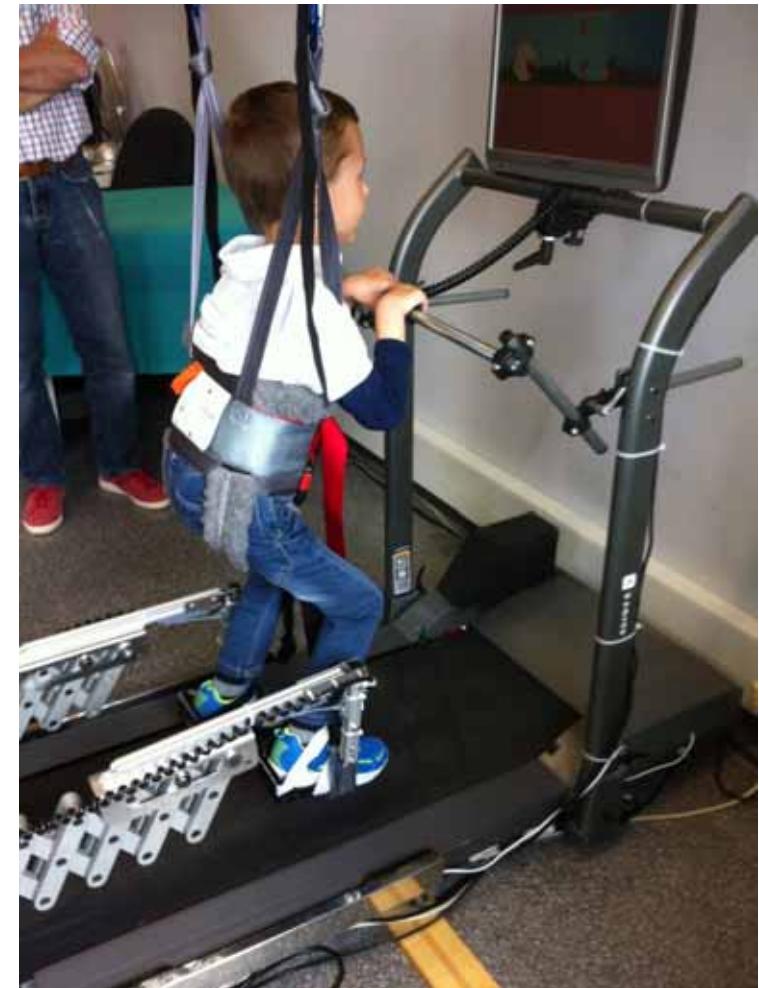
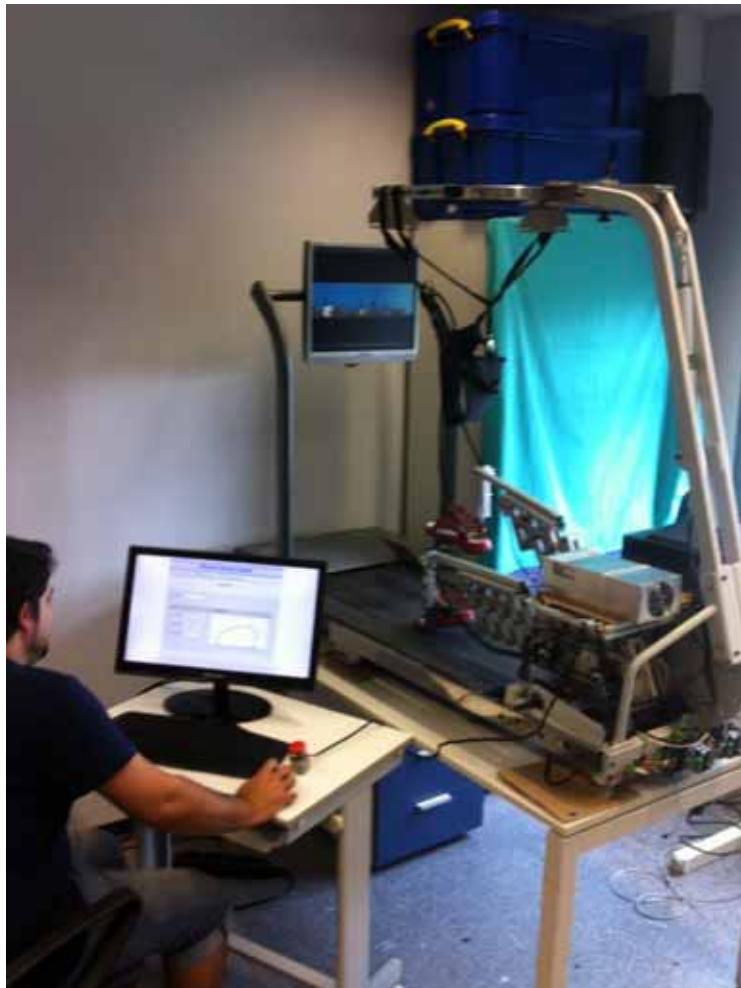
Accelerometers

EMG

Tactile



# CAMPE

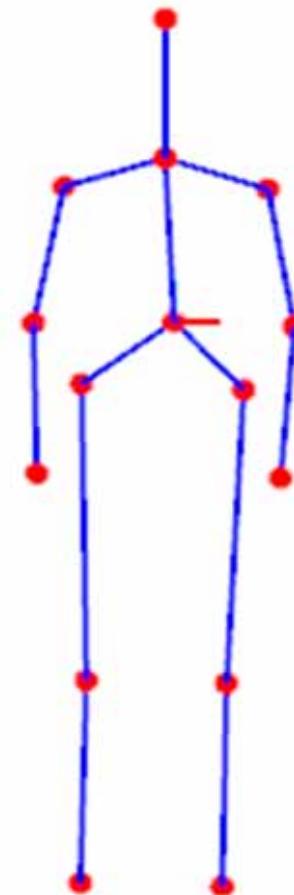


Programming the gait

# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Lower limbs

Body posture detection

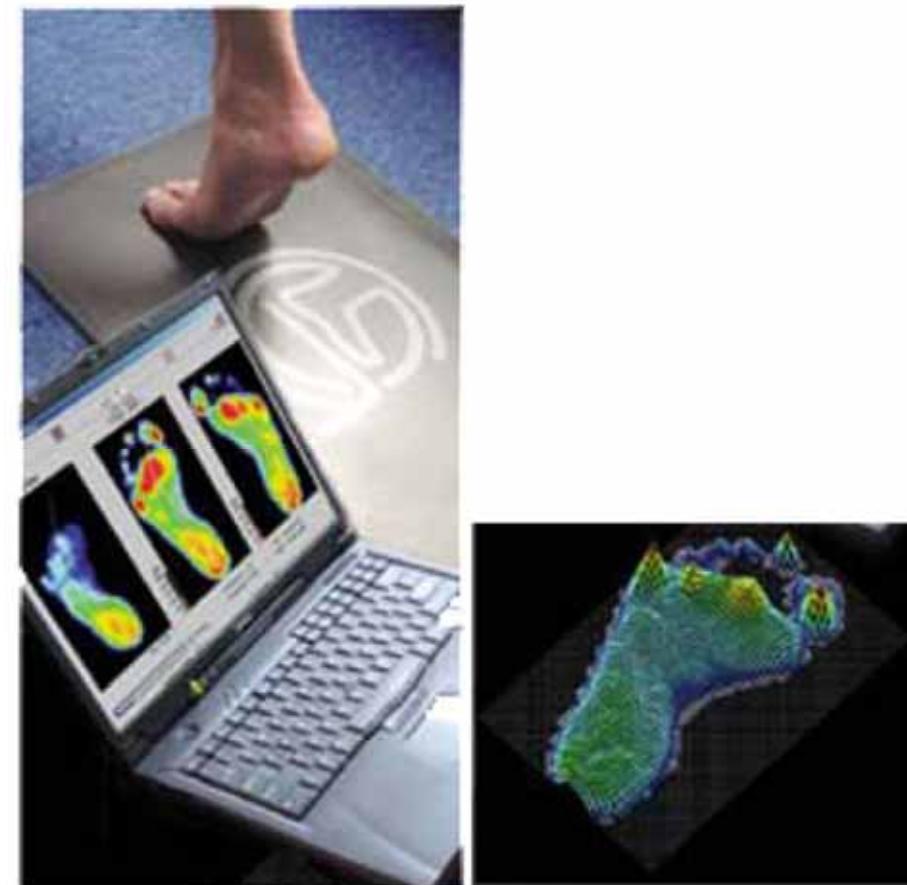
Optical markers/ 3D cameras



# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Lower limbs

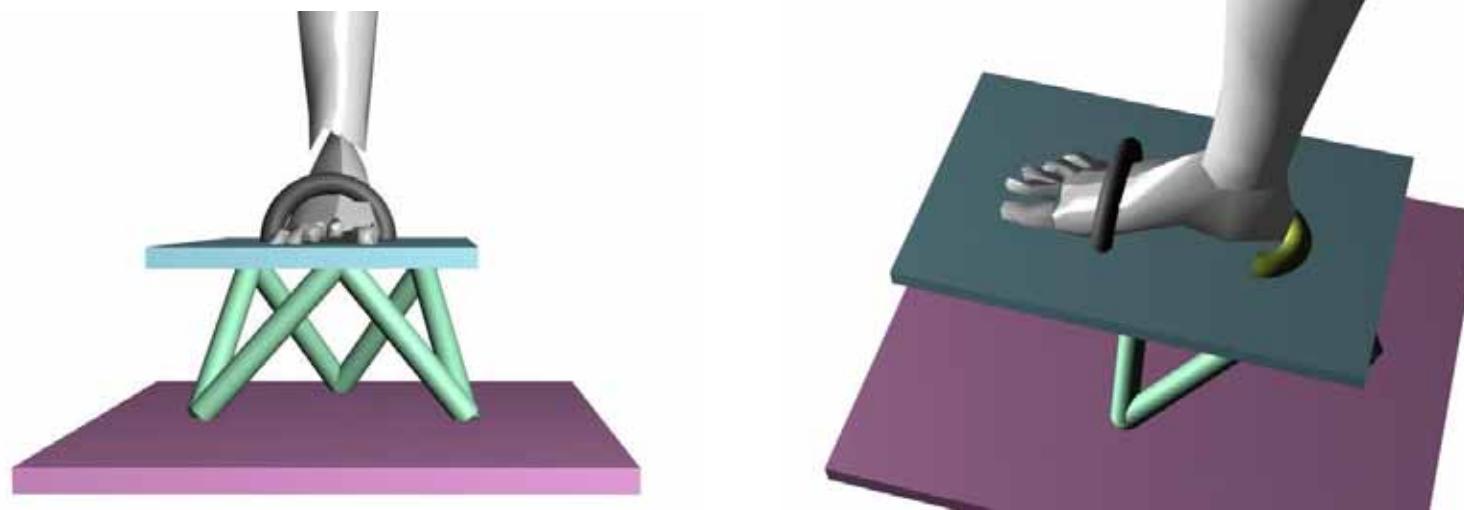
## Body posture detection

Tactile



# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Lower limbs

Post trauma



Gait simulation  
On a Robotics platform  
*Rutgers University 2004*

# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Lower limbs



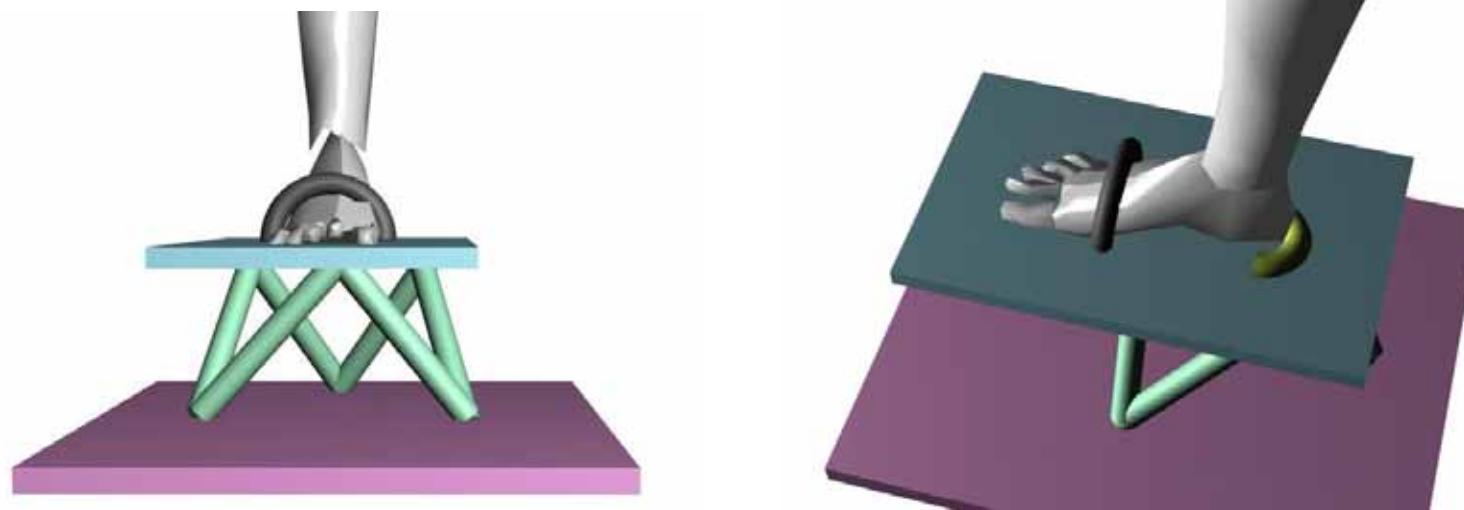
Robotic ankle



Gait simulation

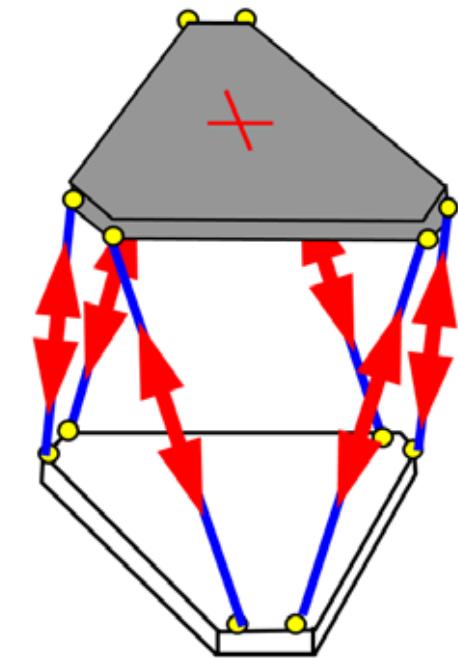
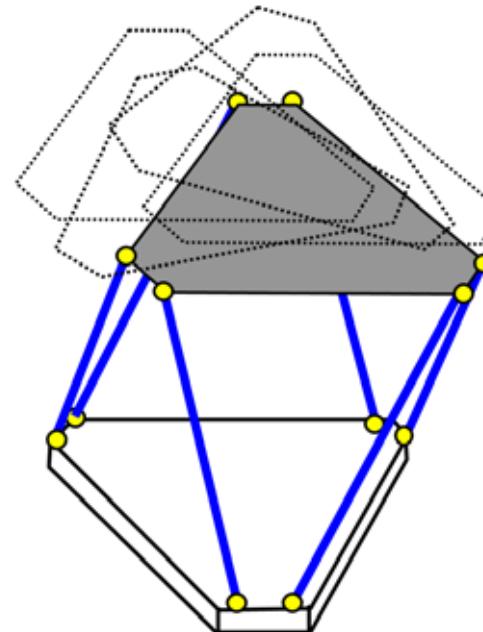
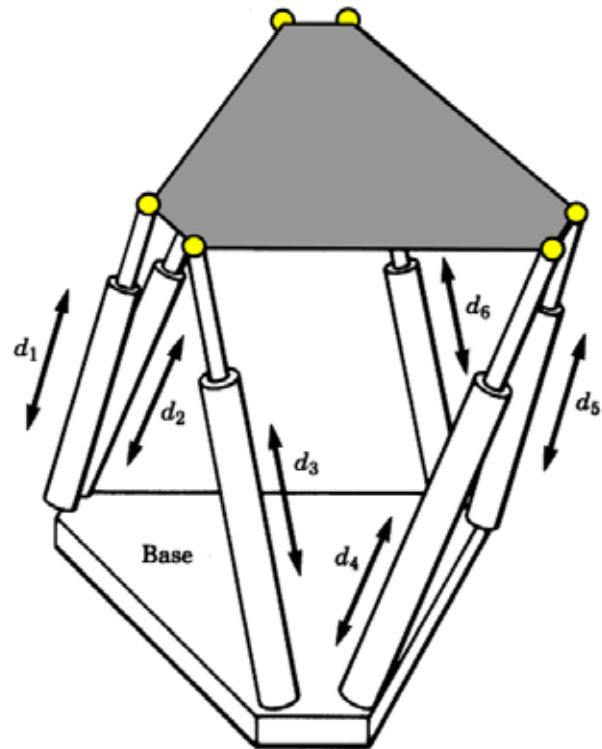
# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation: Lower limbs

Post trauma



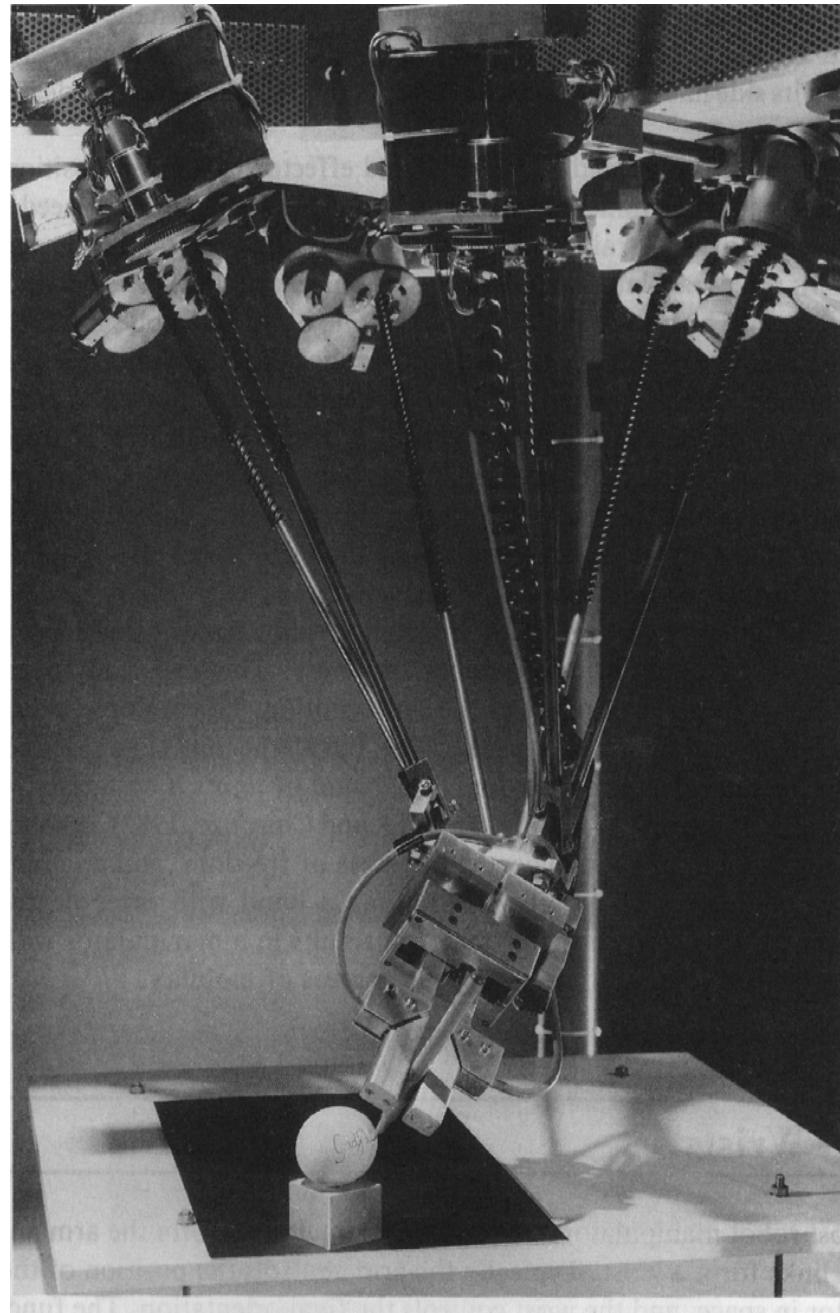
Gait simulation  
On a Robotics platform  
*Rutgers University 2004*

# Stewart Platform



$\pm X, \pm Y, \pm Z$   
 $\pm \varphi, \pm \phi, \pm \theta$

## *Example of Robot “Stewart”*

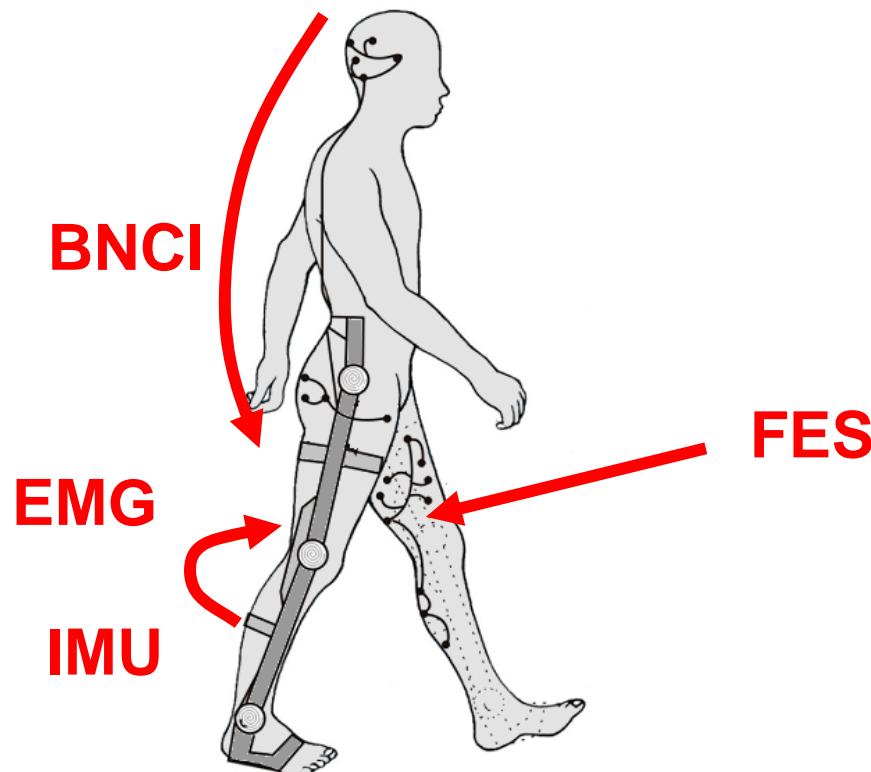


# Robotic Systems in rehabilitation



Gait simulation  
On a Robotics platform  
*Rutgers University 2004*

# Neurorehabilitation



BCI Brain computer interface

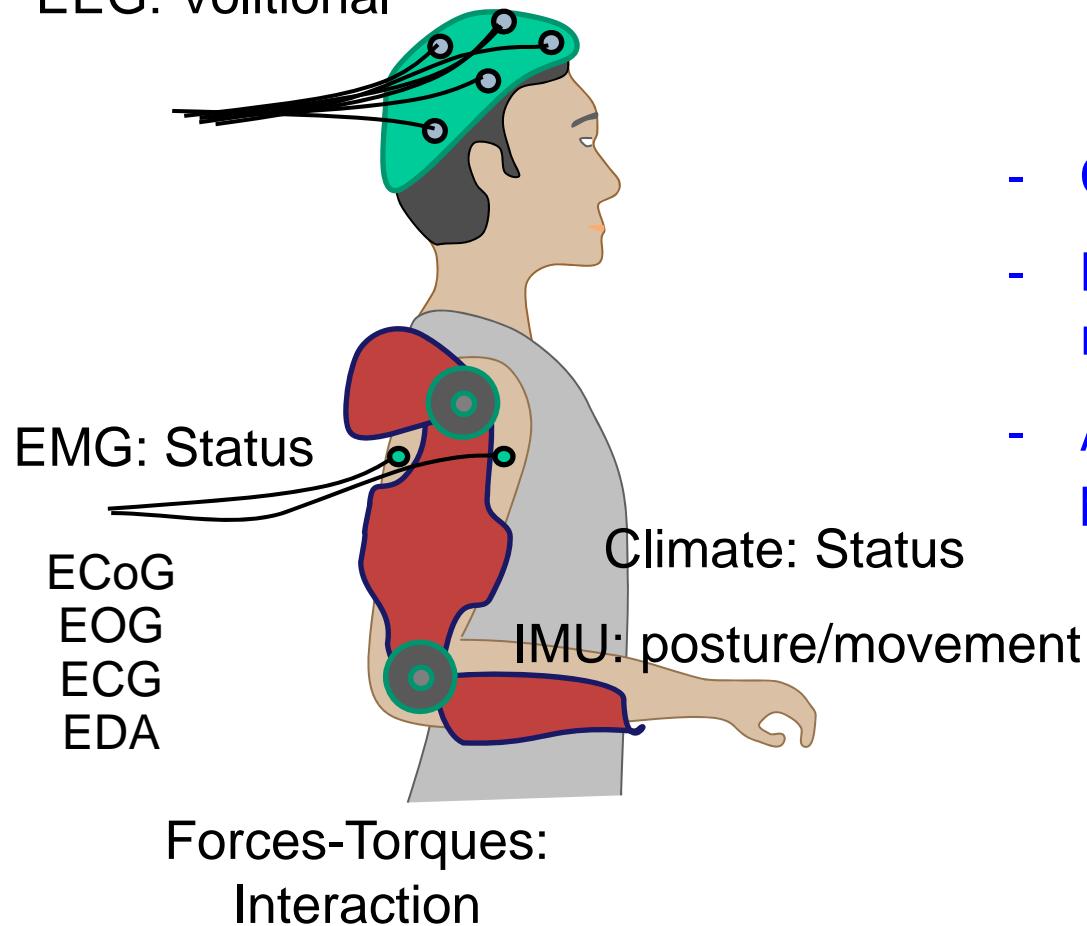
IMU Inertial Measurement Unit

EMG Electromyography

FES Functional Electrical Stimulation

# Neurorehabilitation

EEG: Volitional

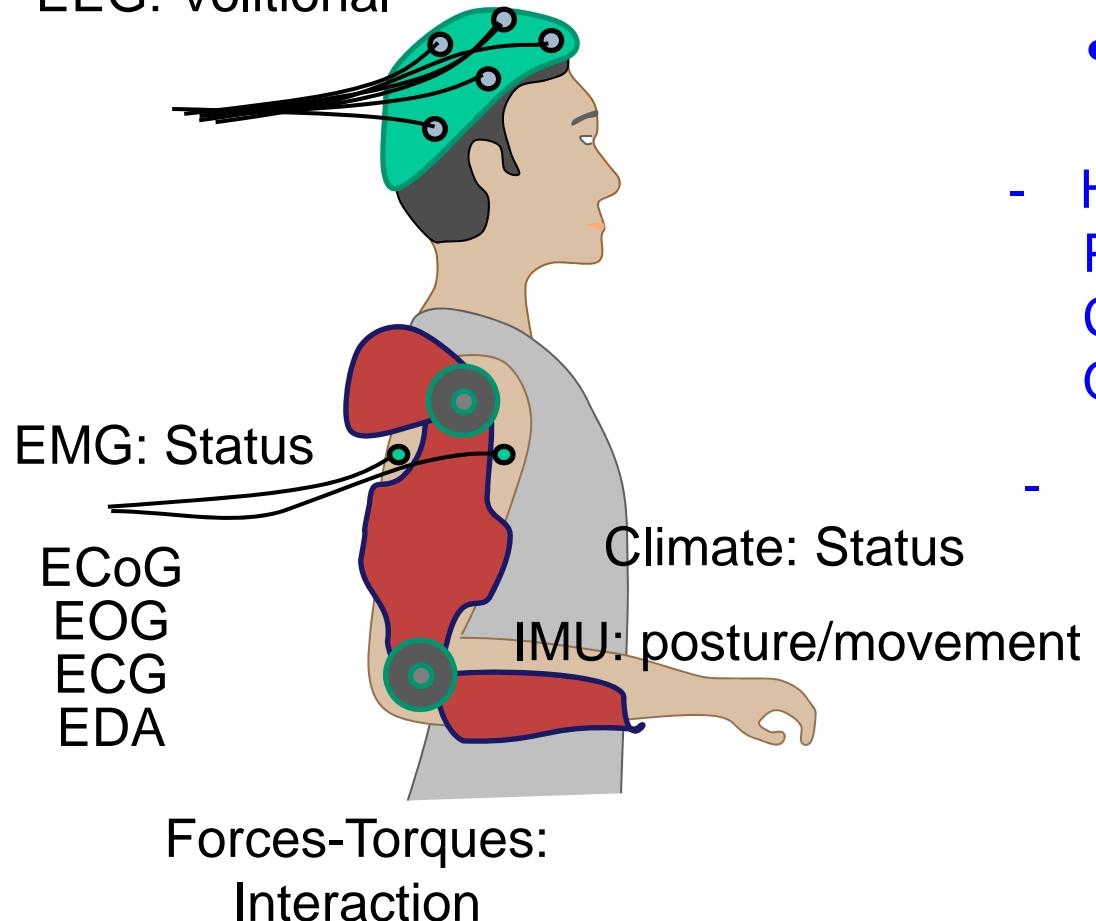


- **Human in the loop**

- Complex behavior
- Non repetitive musculoskeletal response.
- Ambiguous interpretation of physio and biological signals

# Neurorehabilitation

EEG: Volitional

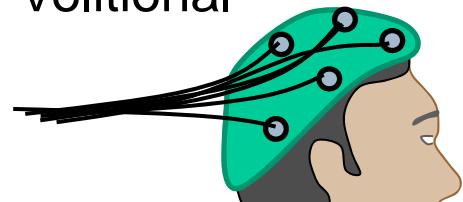


- **Human in the loop**

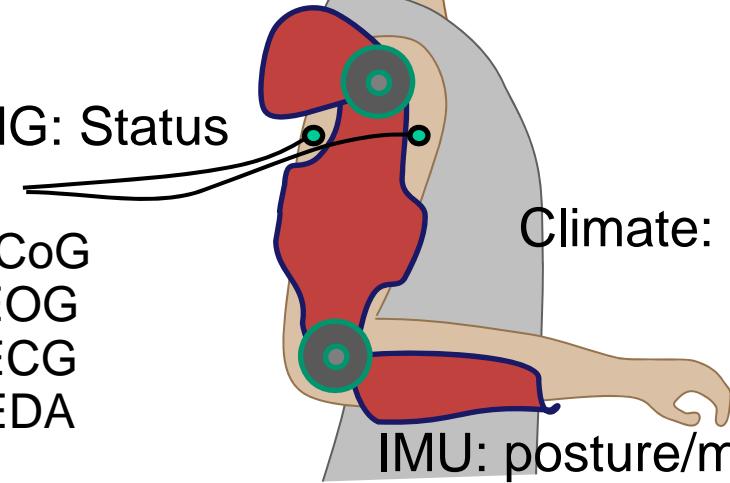
- Heterogeneous data:  
Physical or physiological data.  
Continuous and punctual inputs.  
Quantitative/qualitative inputs.
- Personalized therapy  
Adaptive  
Learning  
Tolerant

# Neurorehabilitation

EEG: Volitional



EMG: Status



ECoG

EOG

ECG

EDA

Climate: Status

IMU: posture/movement

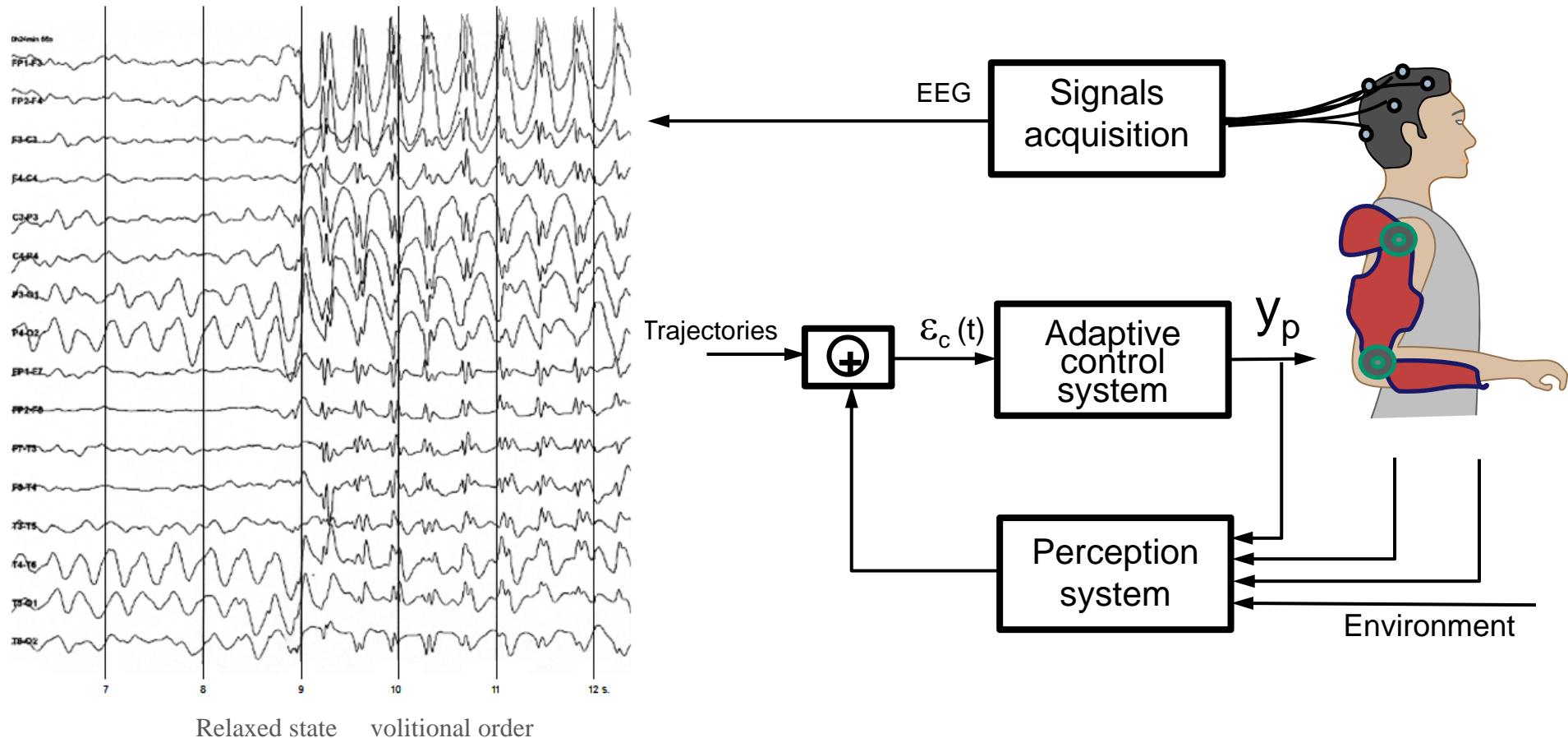
Forces-Torques:  
Interaction

- **Interface requirements**

- Operation very close to humans (contact)
- Adaptable architecture
- Force capability versus lightness.
- High monitoring capabilities.

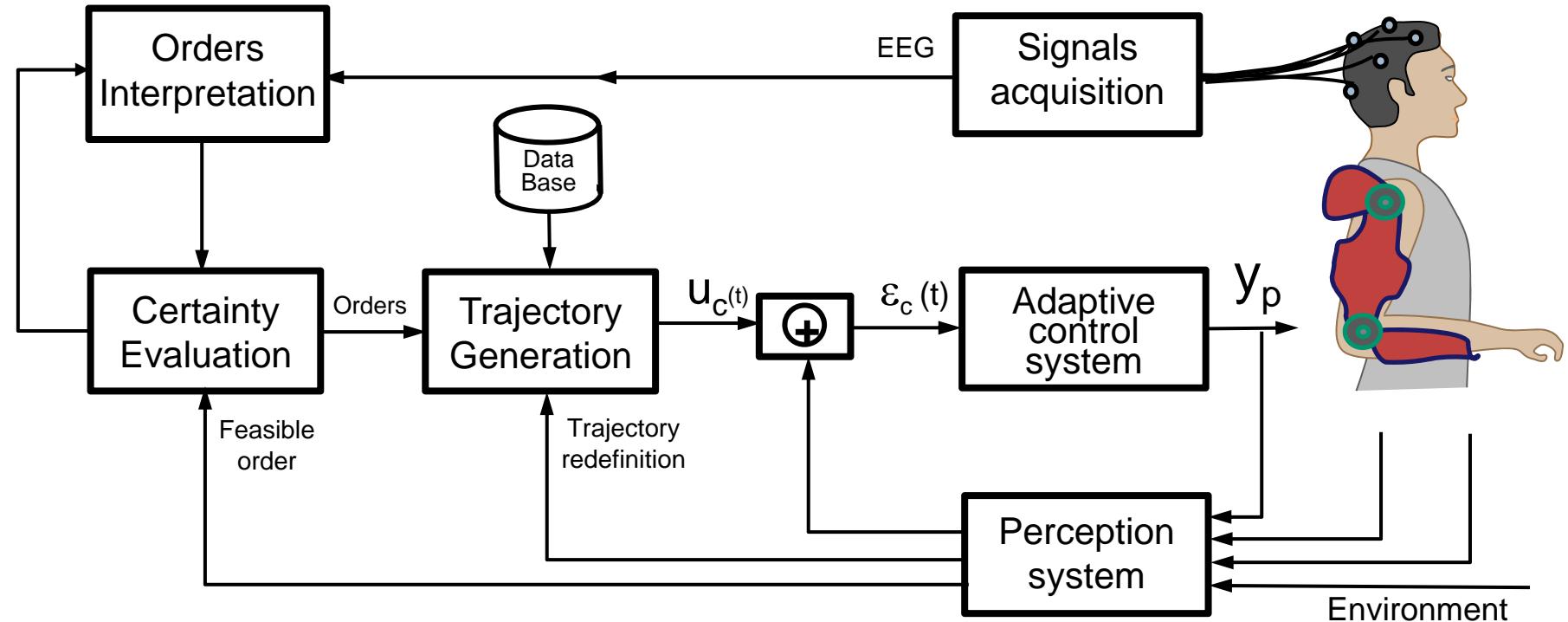
# Adaptive Control

## Interpretation of volitional orders



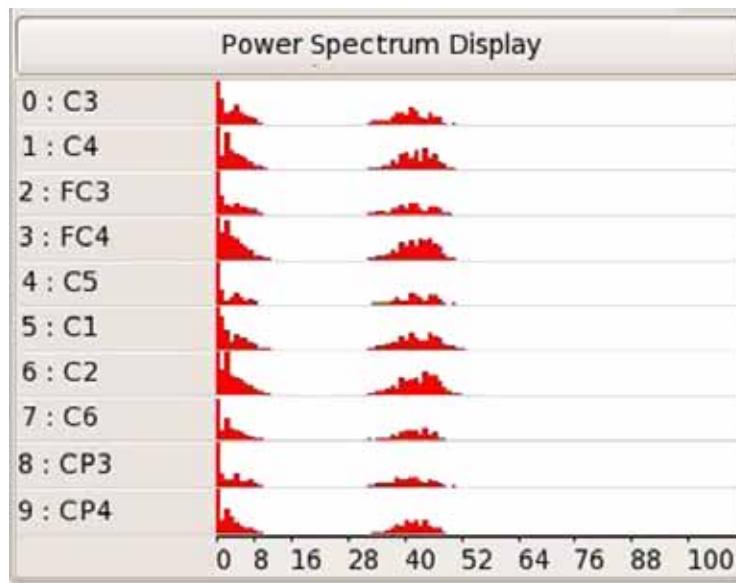
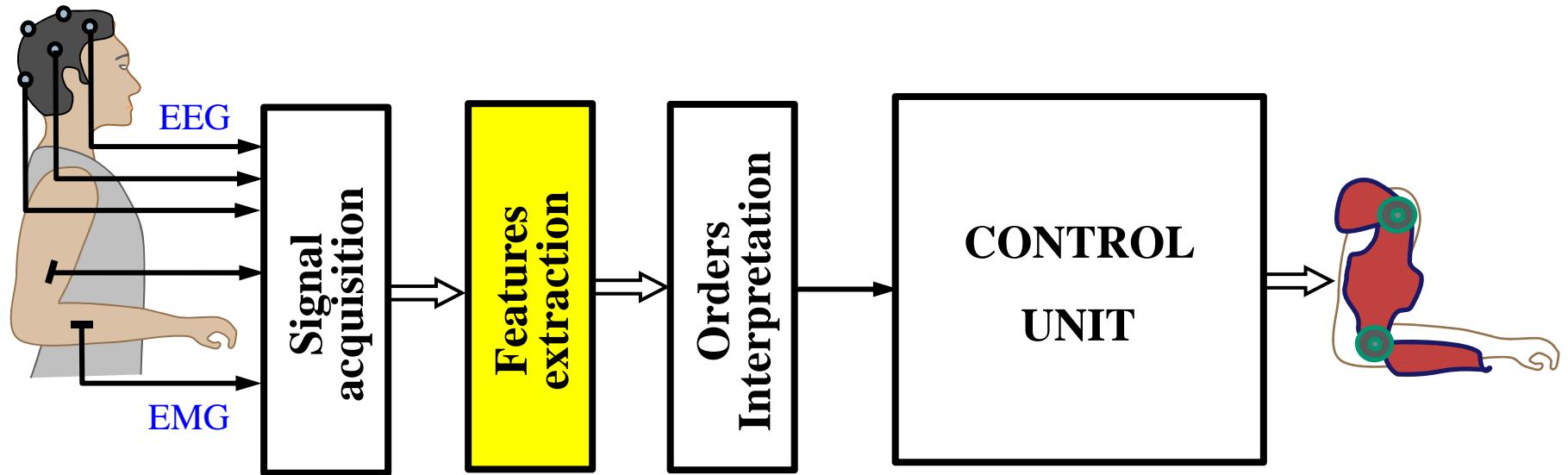
# Adaptive Control

## Interpretation of volitional orders



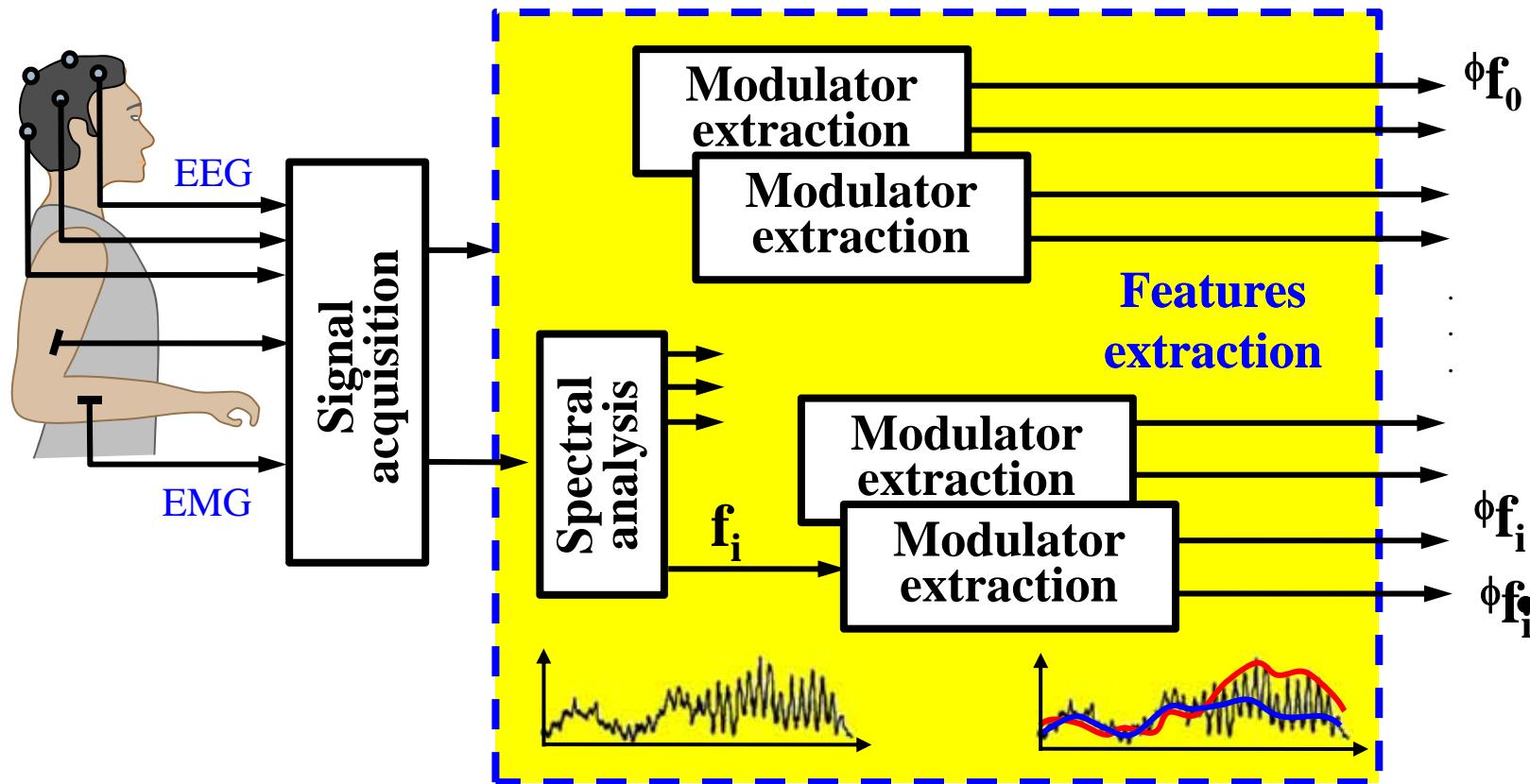
# Adaptive Control

## Interpretation of volitional orders



# Adaptive Control

Interpretation of volitional orders



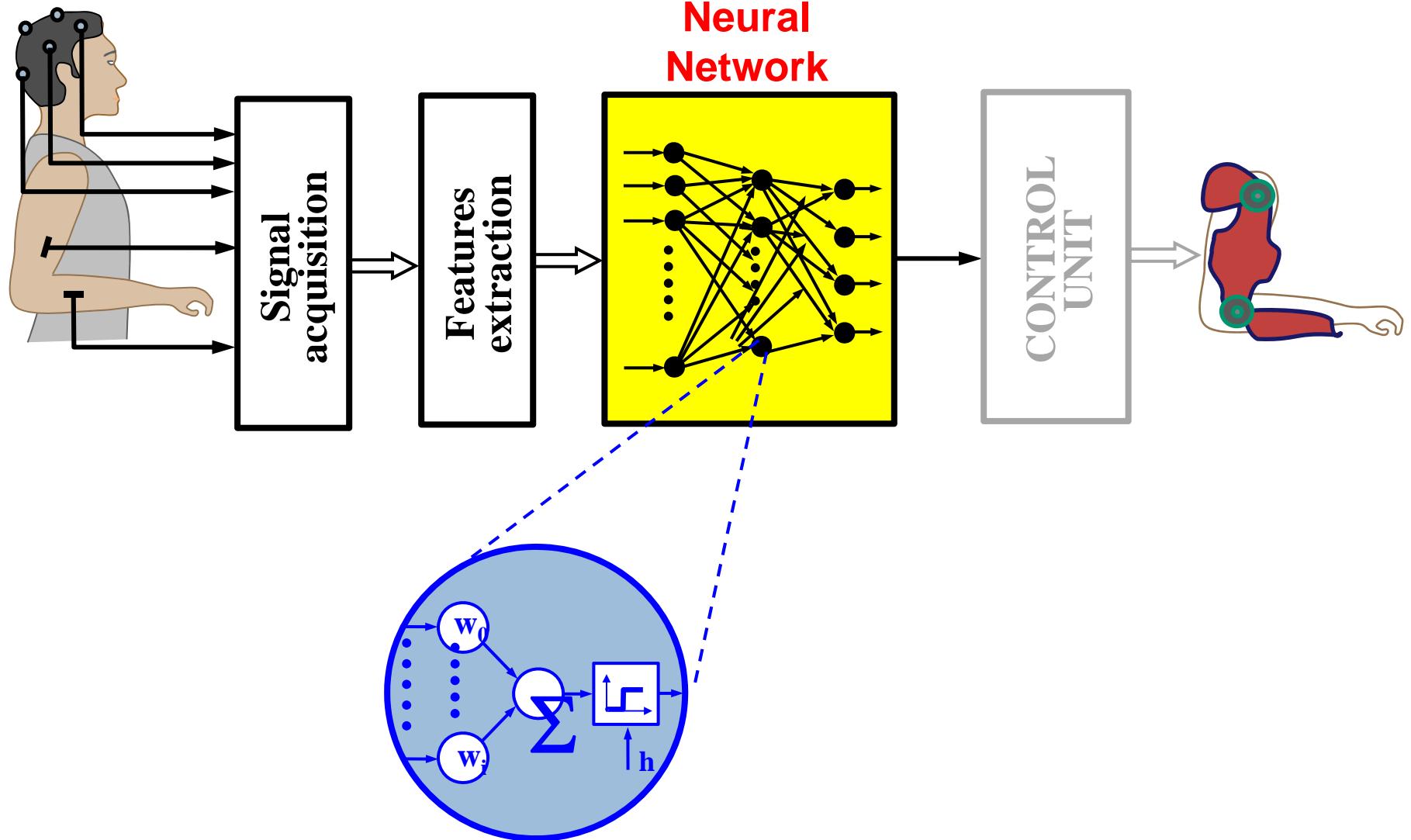
# Orders interpretation

## Features extraction and recognition

- Linear function plus threshold
- Frequency identification through FFT
- Wavelets decomposition
- Principal components Analysis (PCA)
- Independent components analysis (ICA)
- Artificial neural networks ANN → Deep Learning

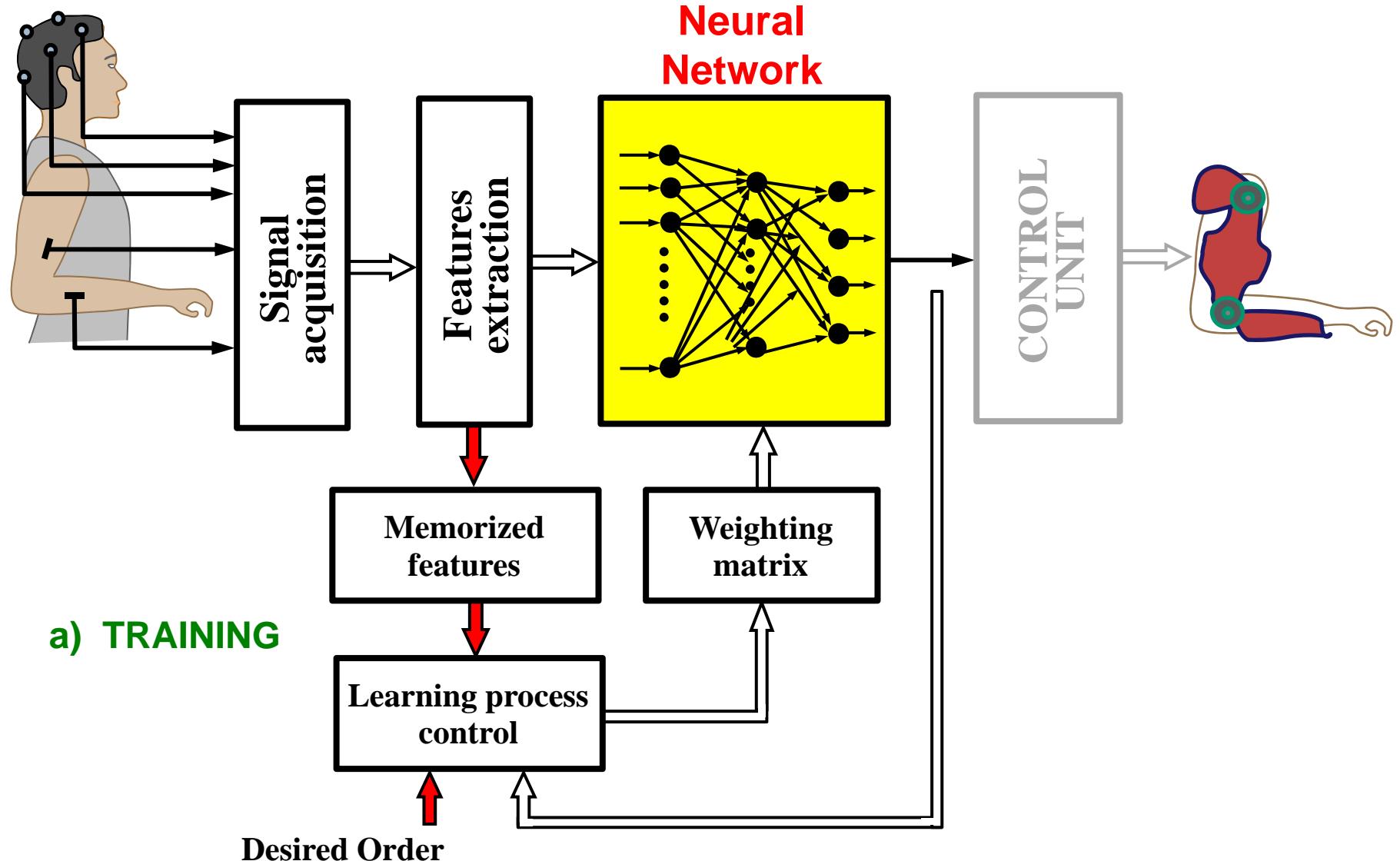
# Adaptive Control

## Interpretation of volitional orders



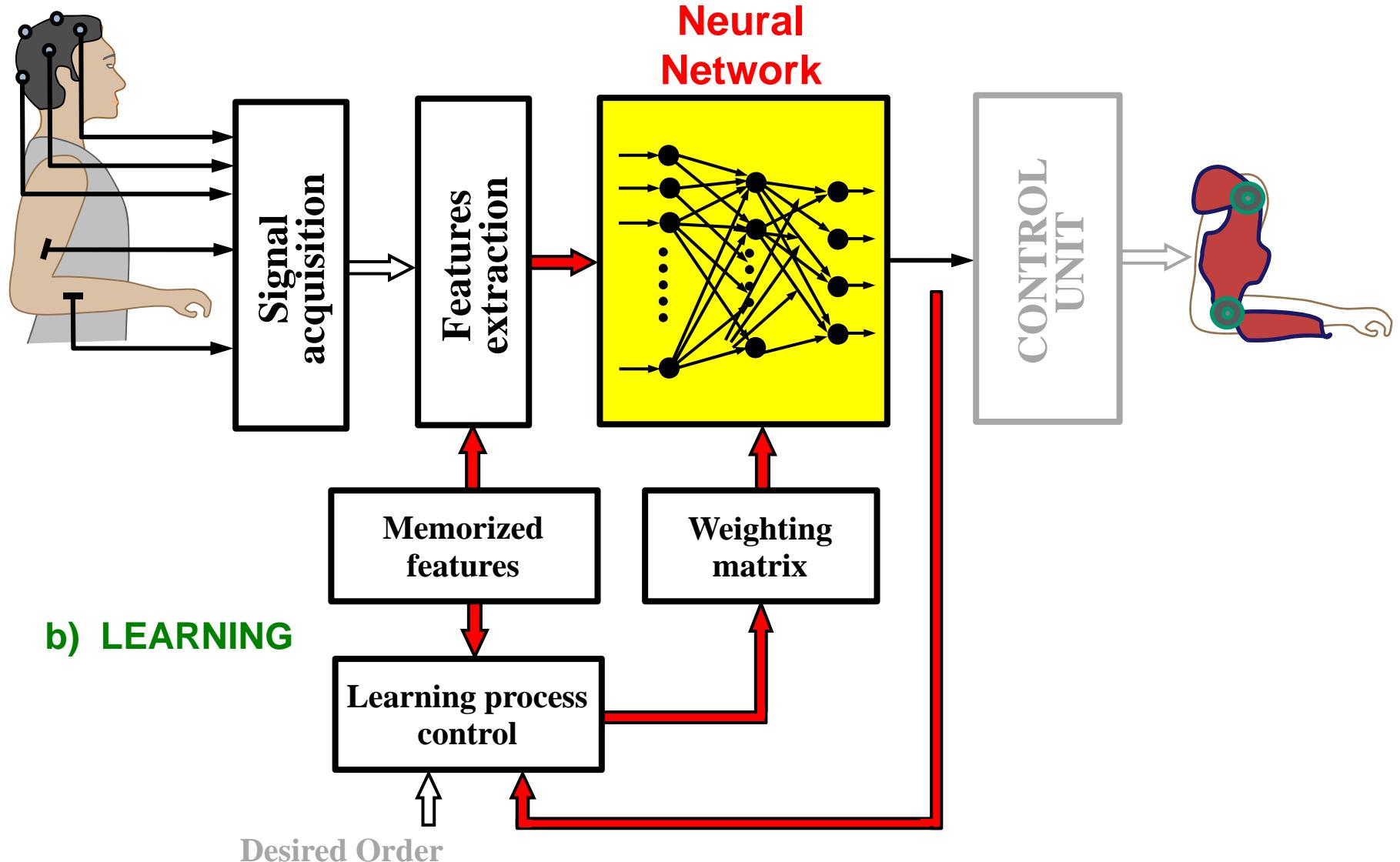
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## Interpretation of volitional orders



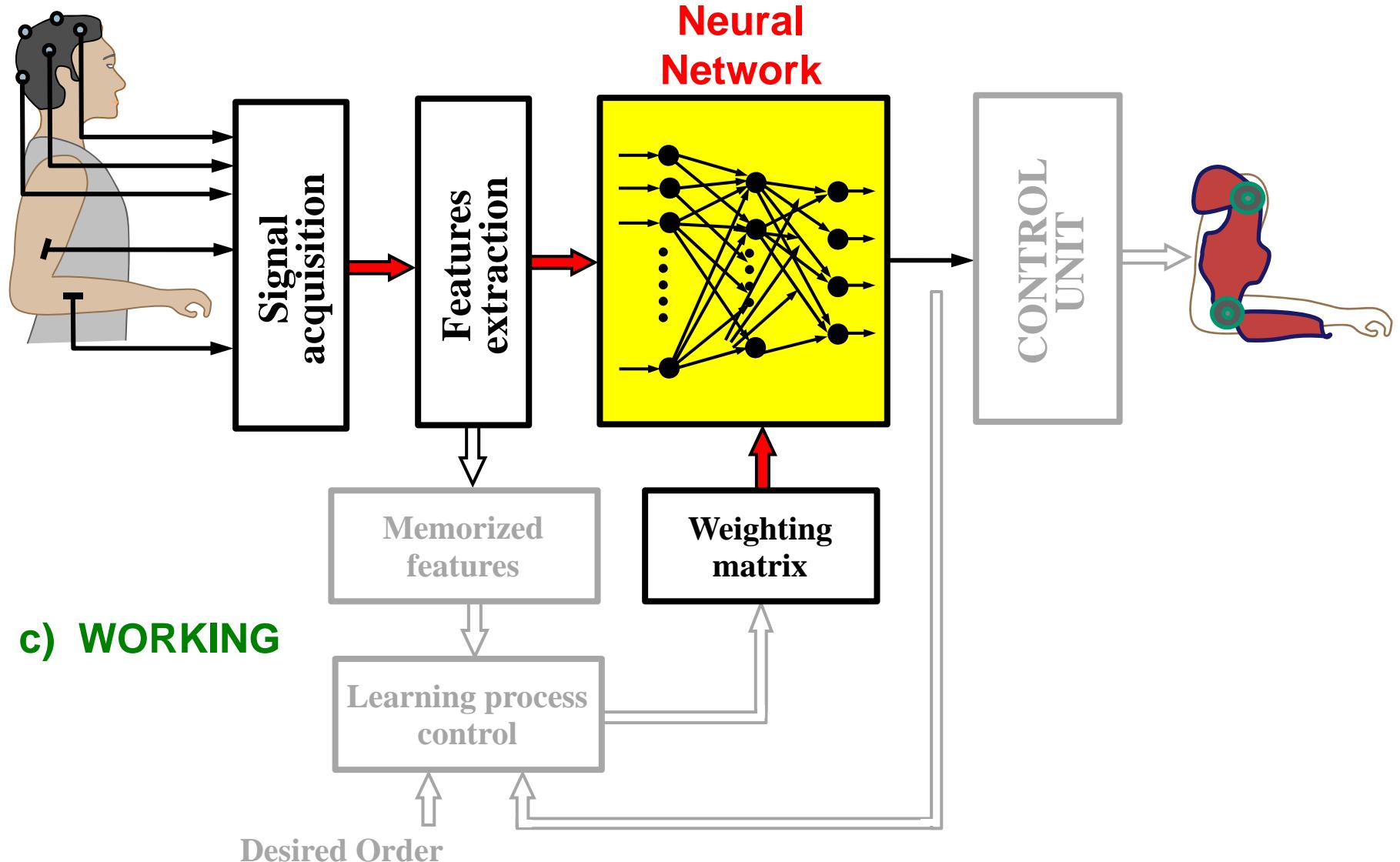
# Adaptive Control

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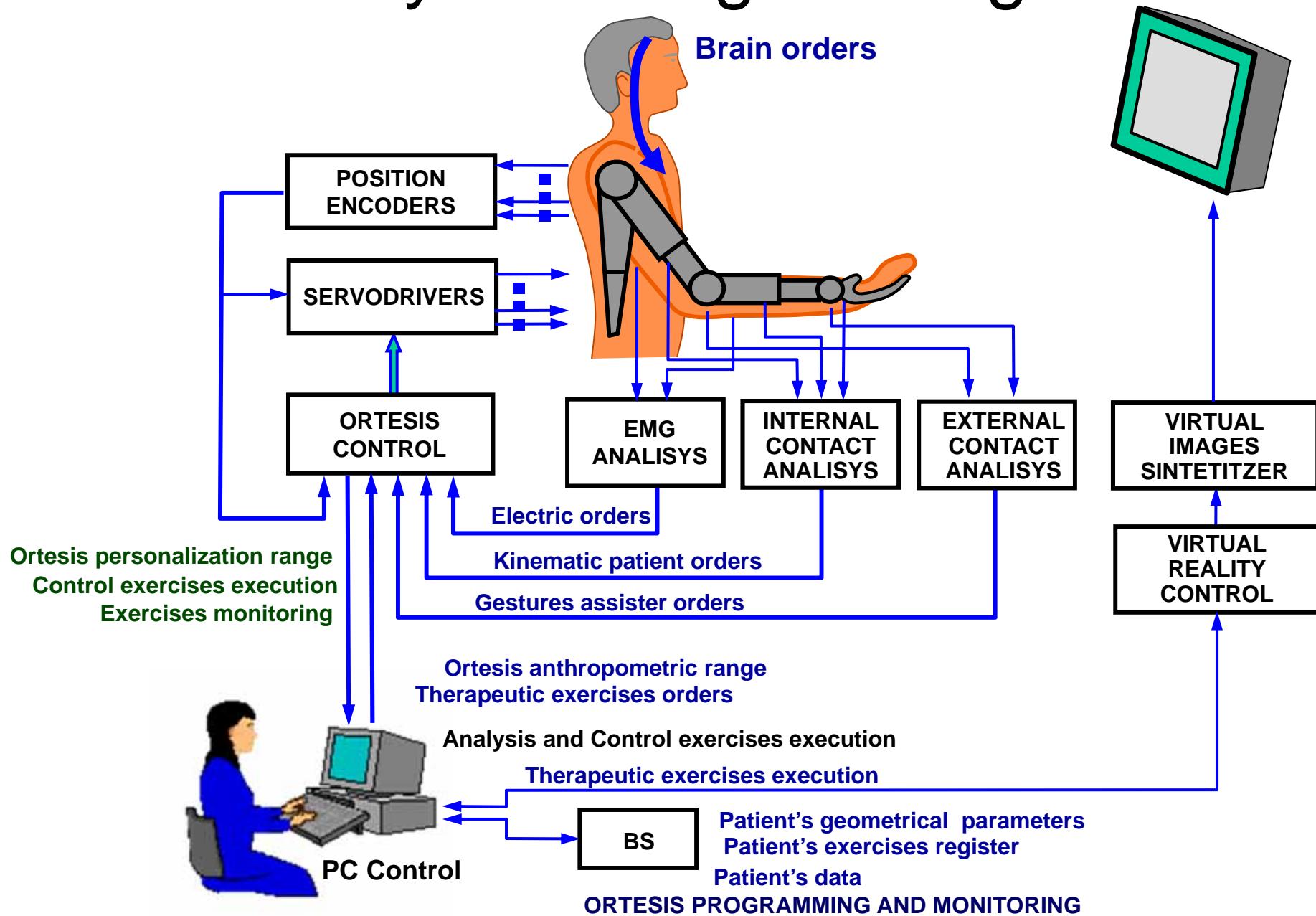


# Adaptive Control

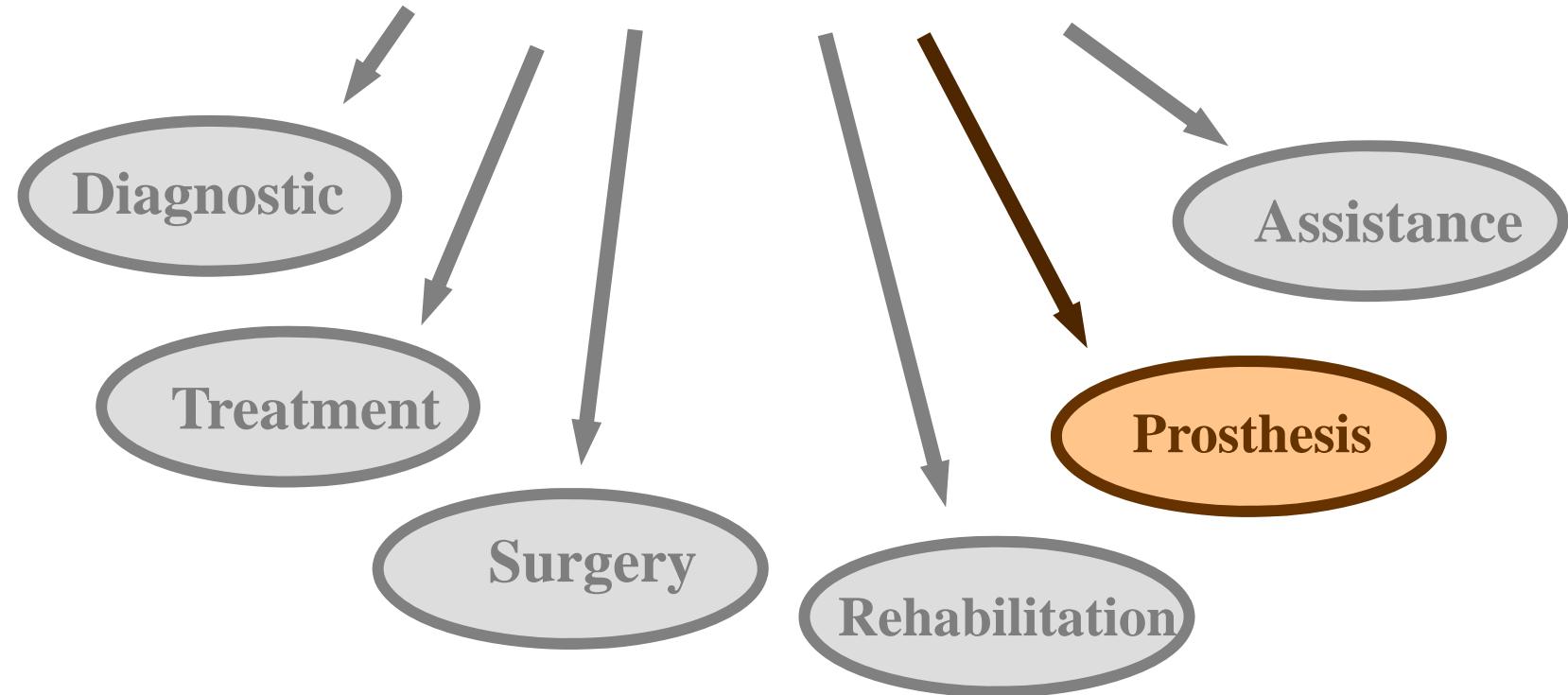
## Interpretation of volitional orders



# System engineering



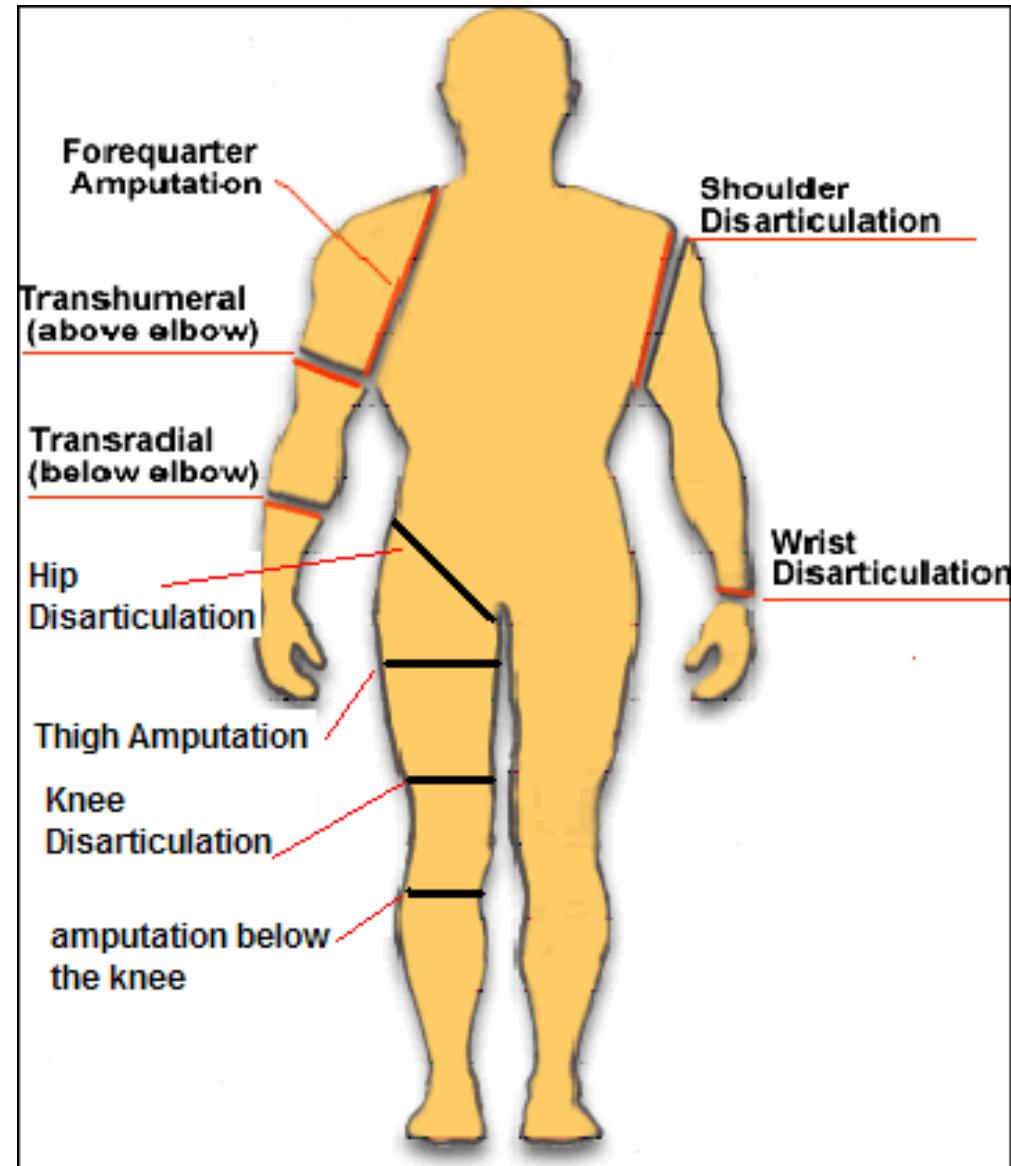
## **Robotics Application Fields in Surgery**



# Prosthetic devices

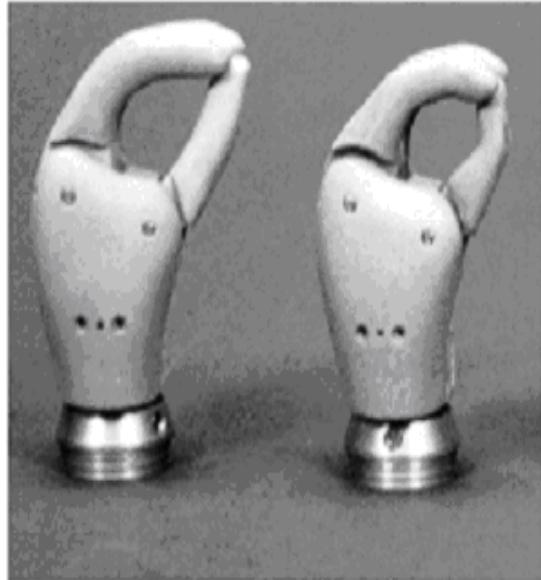
Restoration of the functionality of missing limbs

- Amputees
- Congenital missing of a limb or member

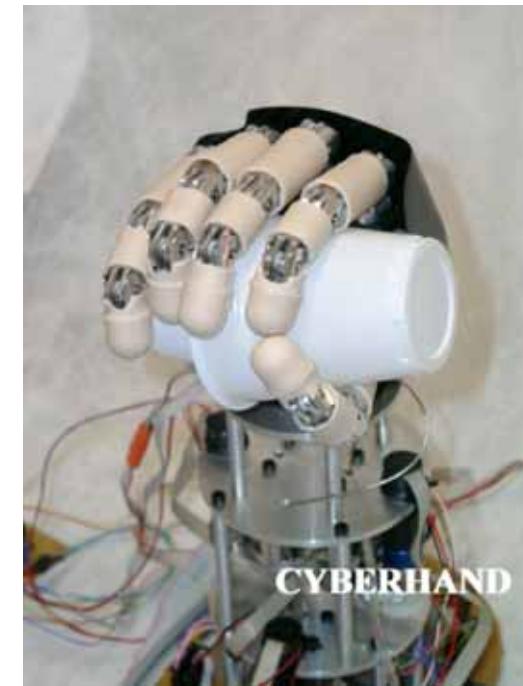


# Hand prosthesis

Clinical



Dexterous: Robotic Hands



Control problem: H-M Communication

# Hand prosthesis

- Main requirement: Physical appearance

**size**



**weight**



# Hand prosthesis

- Passive: Adaptation (socket, harness...)
- Active: EMG (Electro Miographic Signal)



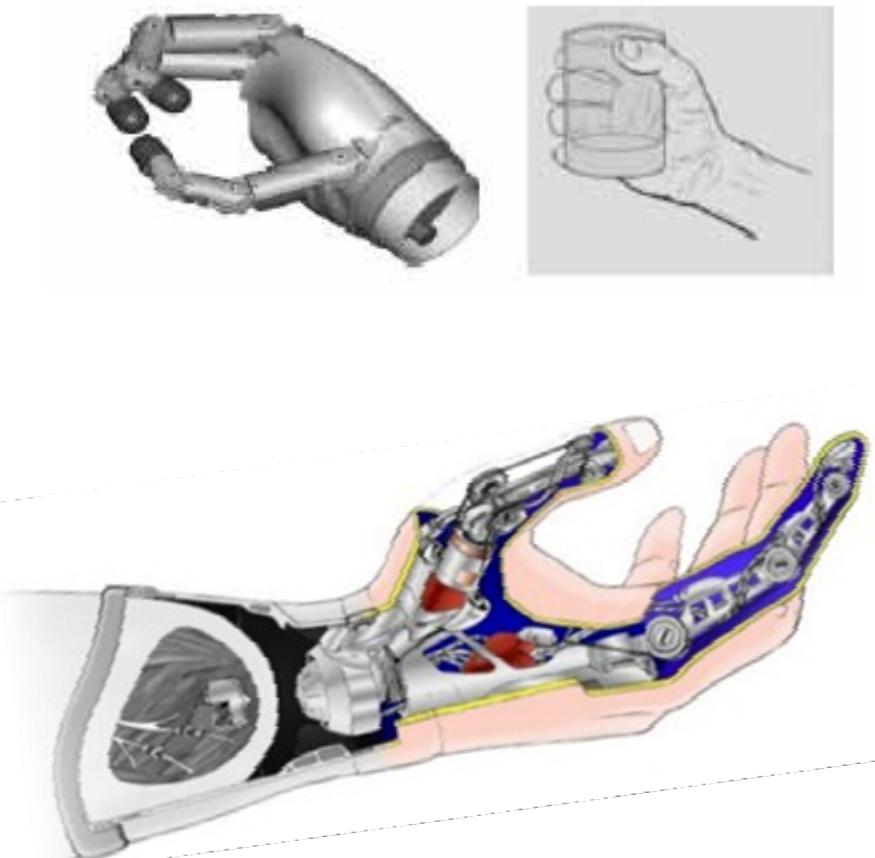
Body powered

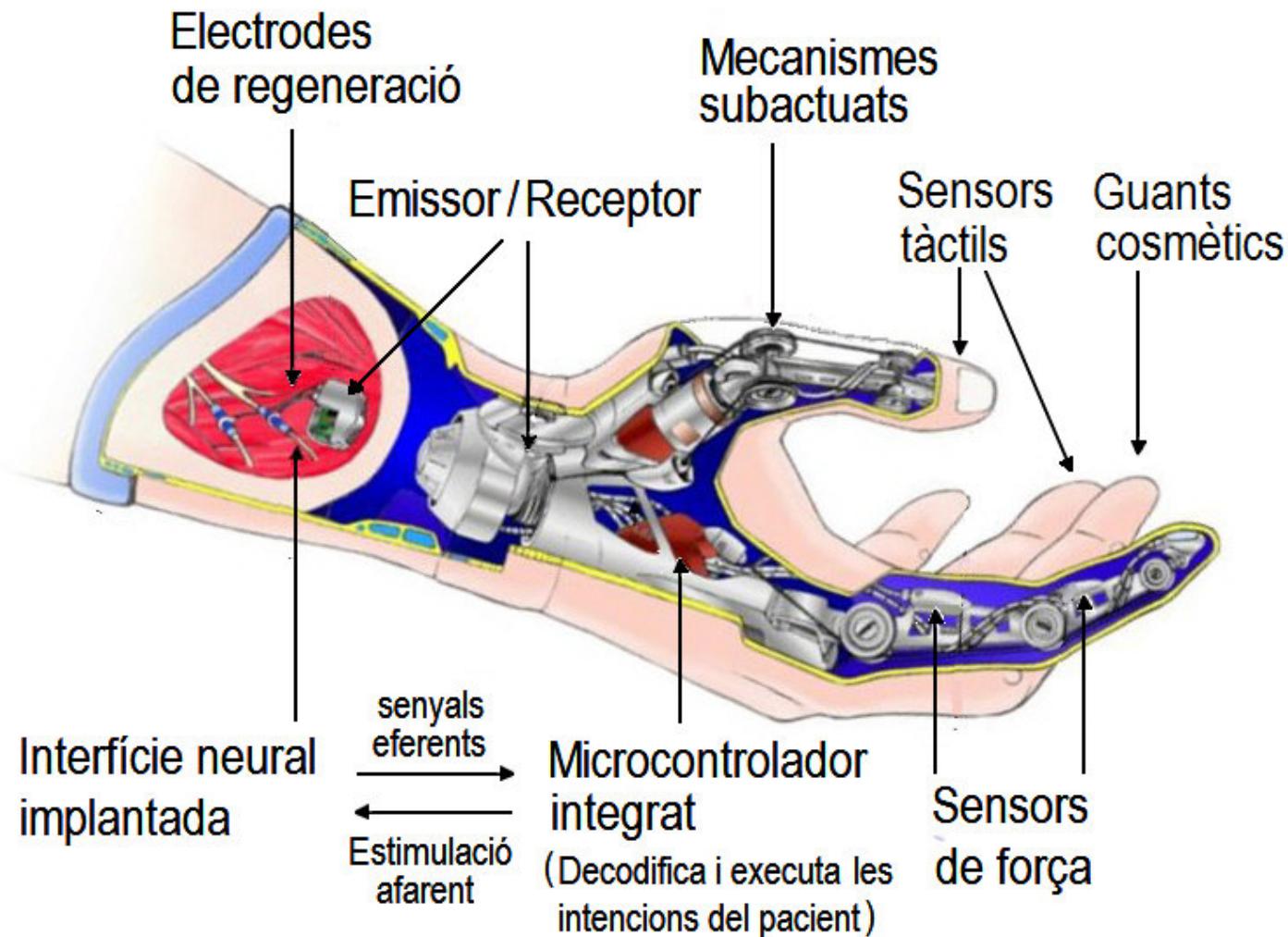


Clenching the biceps → bends the elbow

# Cyberhand

- It has 5 completely sensitive fingers
- It has 16 degrees of freedom and 6 small motors
- Articulated fingers and a motor for the automatic control of flexion.
- It has 21 position sensors, 8 force sensors and 15 touch sensors.
- Opposed thumb able to execute different types of grasping.
- Cyberhand weights 450 grams.





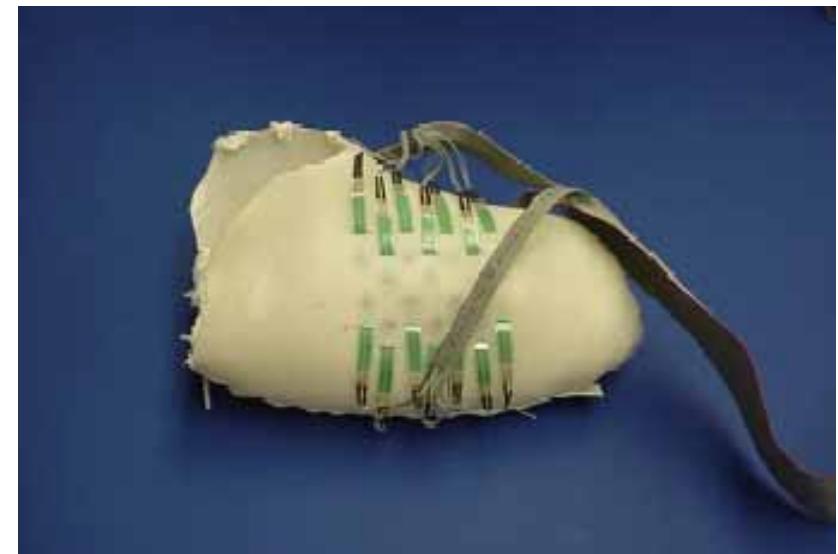
# Learning how to use a prosthesis



Virtual Reality  
CREB-UPC

J Prosthet Orthot. 2012 Apr; 24(2): 56–64.  
doi: [[10.1097/JPO.0b013e3182515437](https://doi.org/10.1097/JPO.0b013e3182515437)]

# Learning how to use a prosthesis



Feedback of remaining mobility.  
Sensitive cover  
*Rutgers University 2004*

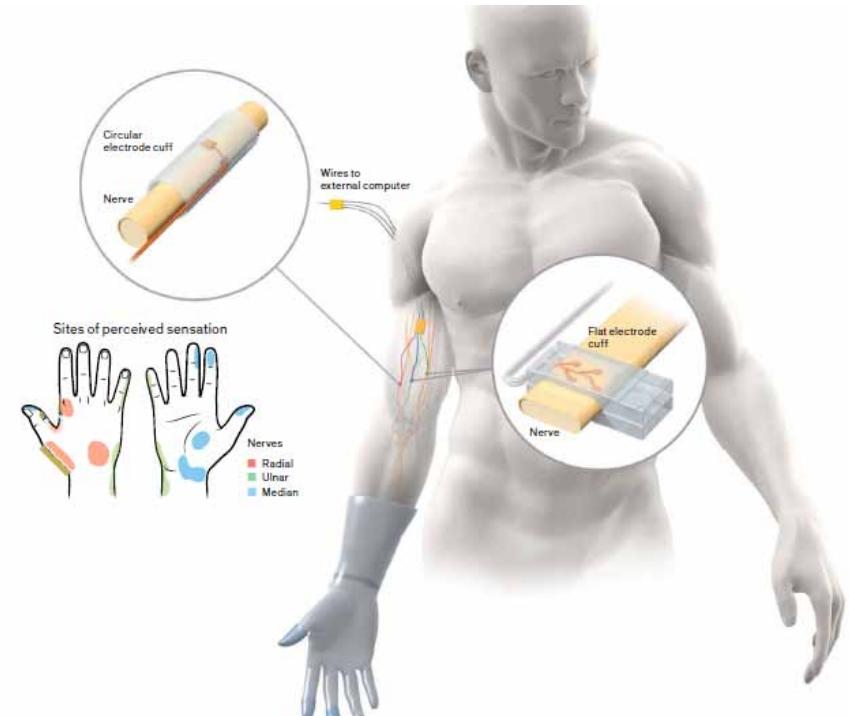
# Learning how to use a prosthesis



Feedback of remaining mobility.

Sensitive cover of the amputee limb

# Improving prosthesis use



Prosthetics: Restoring the human  
touch  
*Spectrum May 2016*

## **Which factors limit their extensive use?**

- Aesthetics
- Autonomy
- Weight
- Noise
- Ergonomics
- Interaction with the user

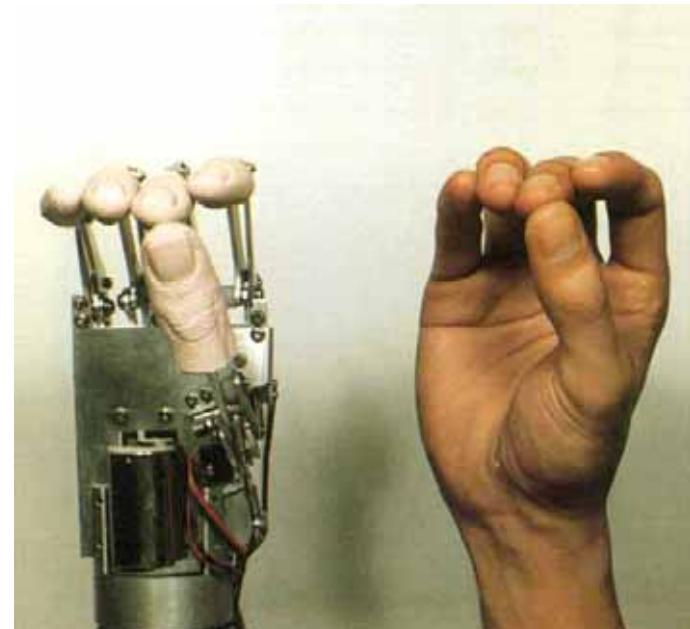
# Which factors limit their extensive use?

- Aesthetics
- Autonomy
- Weight
- Noise
- Ergonomics
- Interaction with the user
  - Silicones
  - Thermoelastic materials
  - Titanium



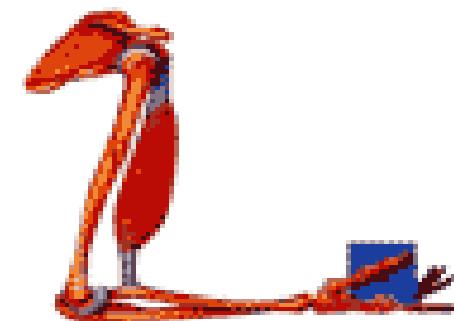
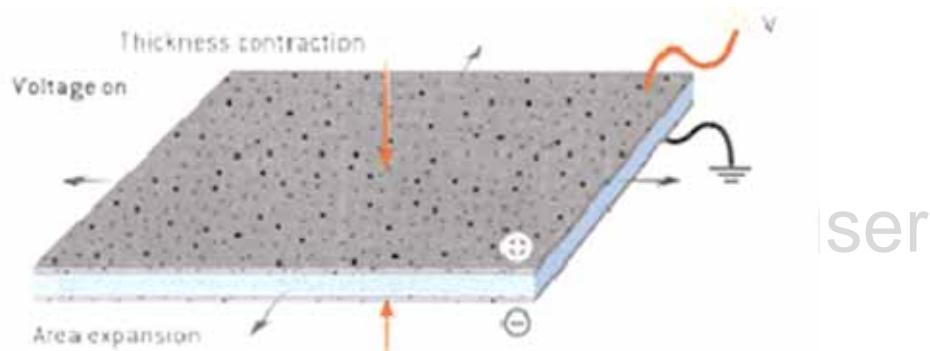
# Which factors limit their extensive use?

- Aesthetics
- Autonomy
- Weight
- Noise
- Ergonomics
- Interaction with the user



# Which factors limit their extensive use?

- Aesthetics
- Autonomy
- Weight
- Noise



Electro active Polymers

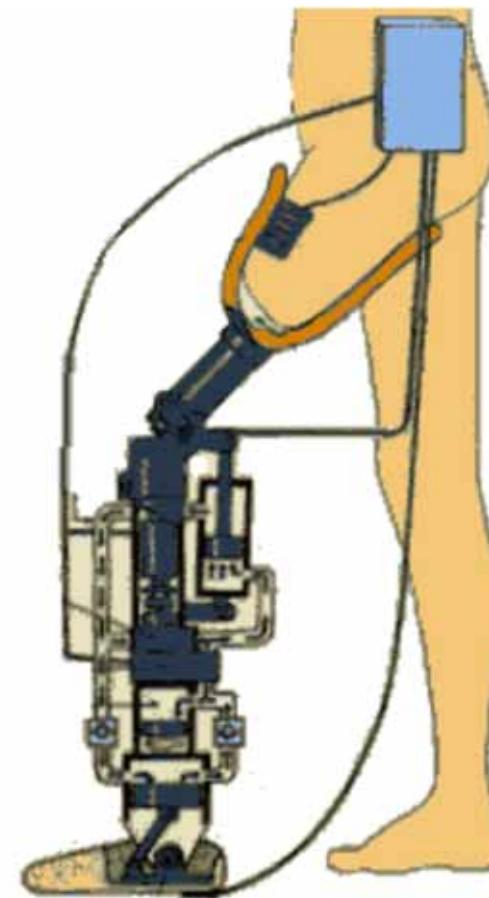
*SMA: Shape Memory Alloy*

## **Which factors limit their extensive use?**

- Aesthetics
- Autonomy
- Weight
- Noise
- Ergonomics
- Interaction with the user (feel like natural hand/arm/foot/leg)

# Lower limbs

- Less dexterity
- More weight
- Stability issues



# Lower limbs

**ottobock.**



X3 waterproof  
prosthetic leg

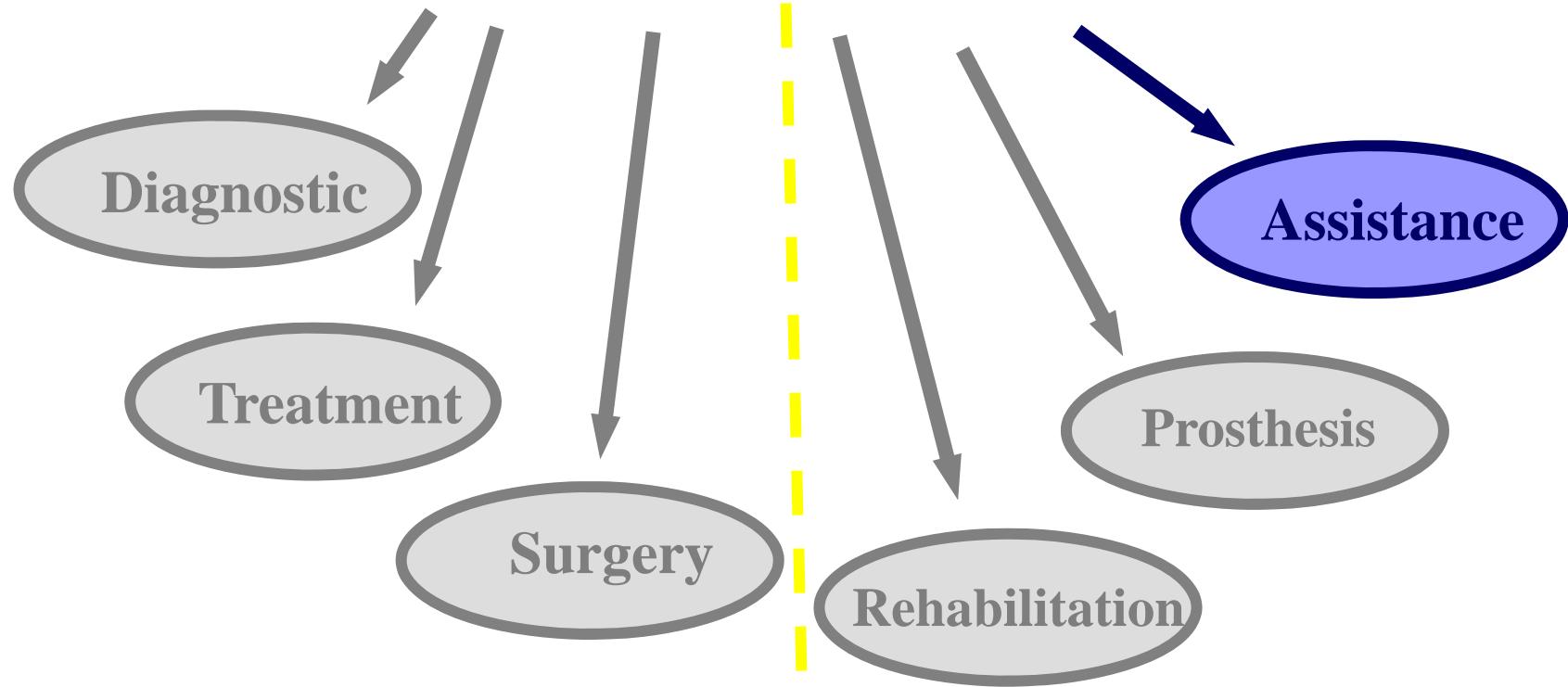


1E95  
Challenger foot



Above-Knee  
Fitness  
Prosthesis

## **Robotics Application Fields in Medicine**



Assistance to the surgeon

Assistance to the  
elder or disabled

# **Evolution of assistive technology. Towards robotics systems**

## **GOALS:**

- Extend human capabilities
- Support to rehabilitation
- Increase user's autonomy

## **MEANS:**

- Simple electromechanical devices
- Robots as control interfaces or as a cognitive aid
- Complete robotic systems

# **Evolution of assistive technology. Towards robotics systems**



Human  
extension  
devices



Robotic systems  
for human extension

# **Evolution of assistive technology. Towards robotics systems**



Human  
extension  
devices

Robotic systems  
for human extension

# **Evolution of assistive technology. Towards robotics systems**

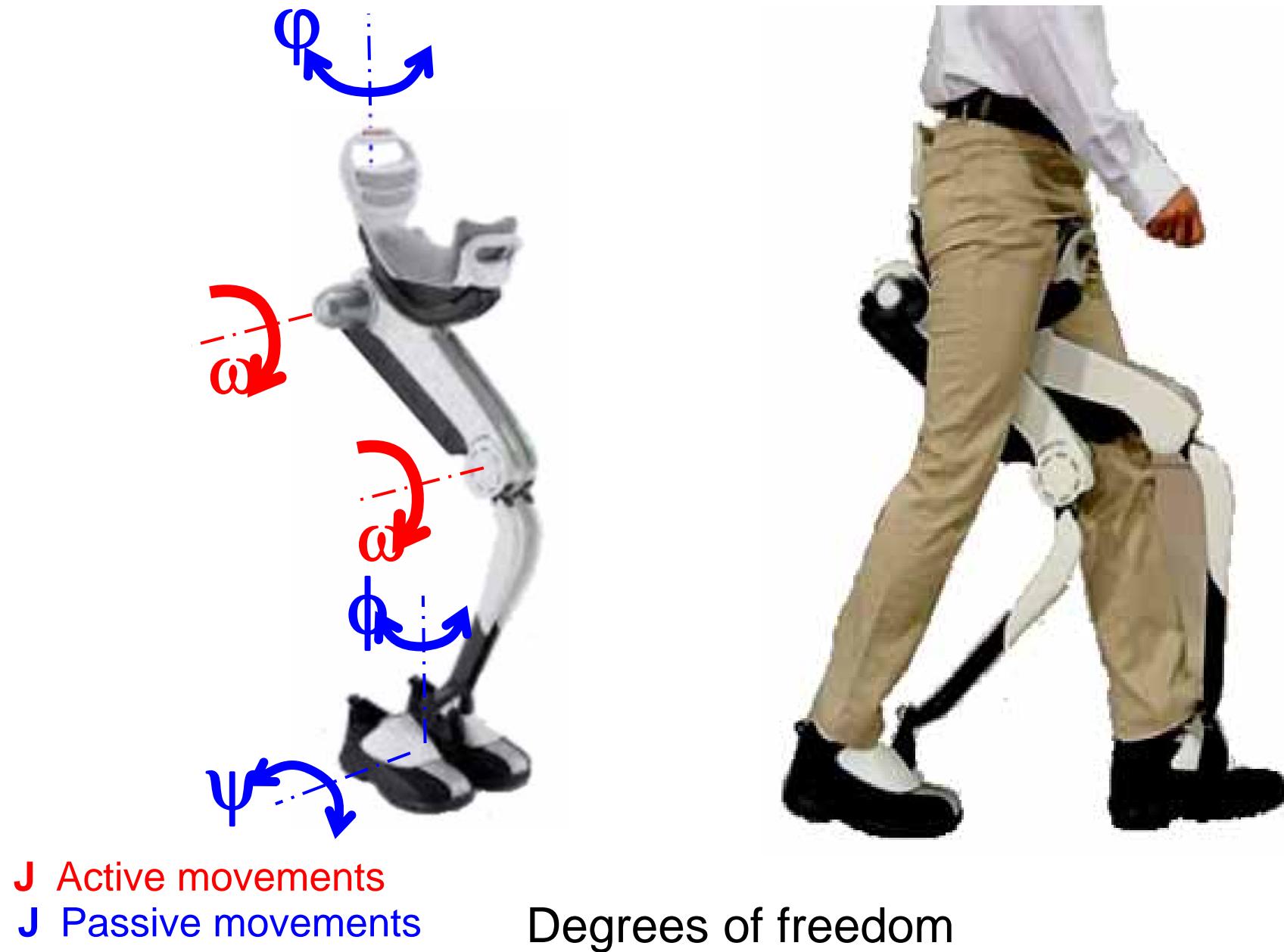


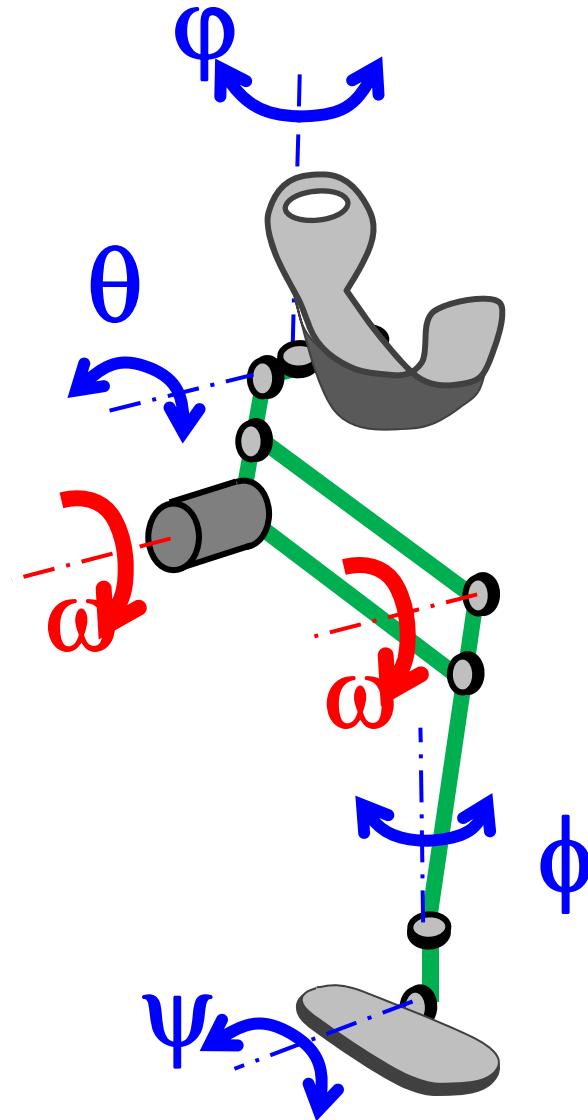
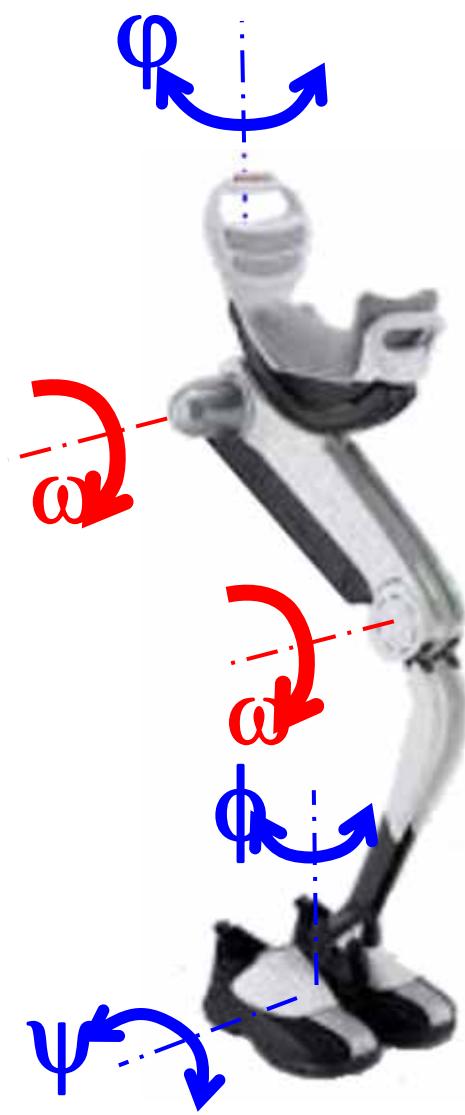
Robotic systems for human extension

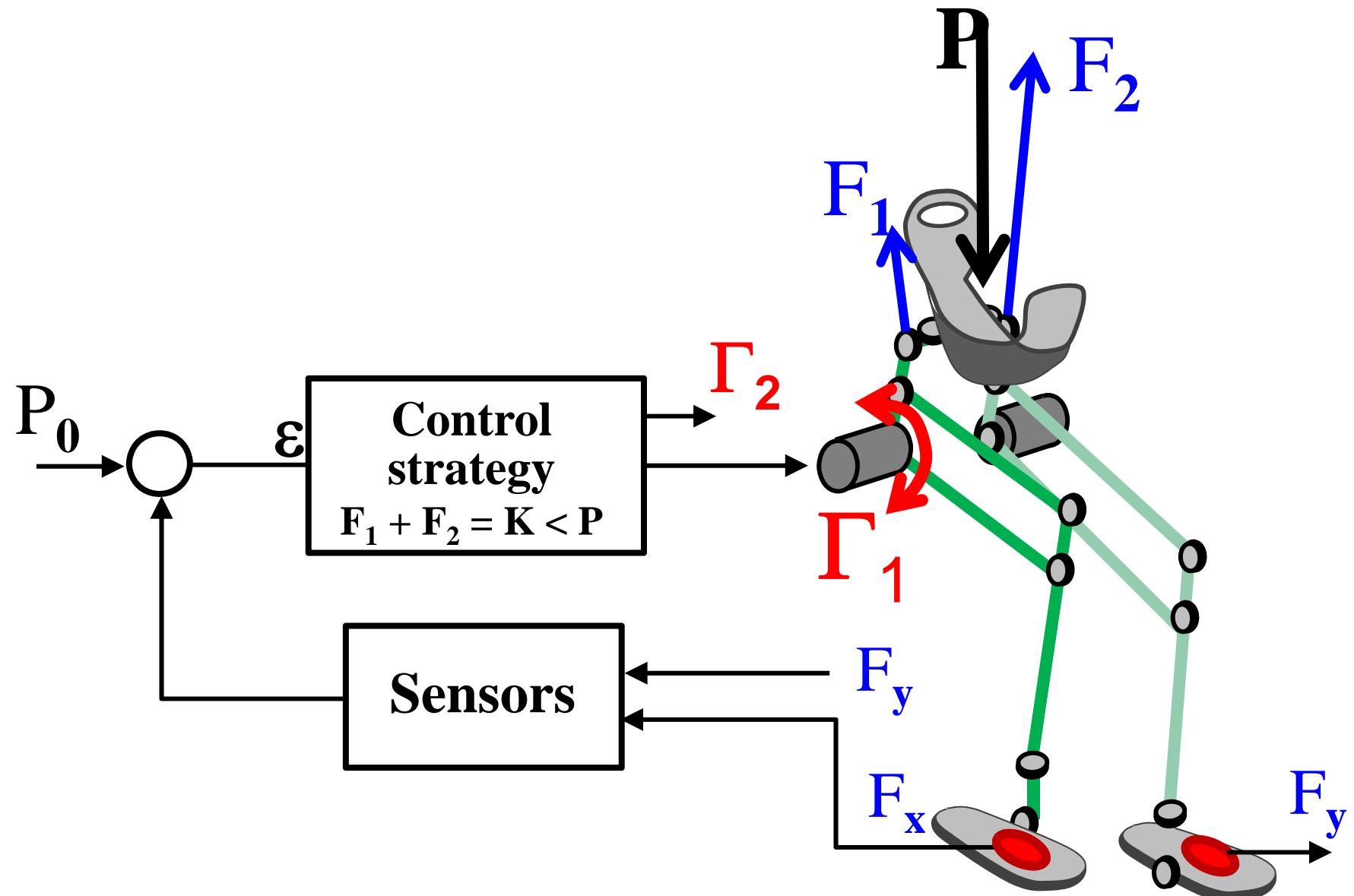


Analysis of the Honda Walker

# Problem: Analysis of the walker kinematics







Control strategy

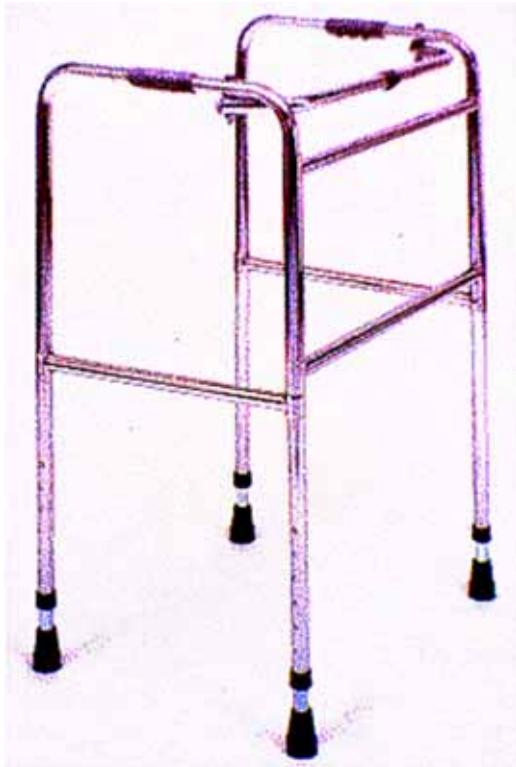


Other Honda  
products



Other orthesis

# Evolution of assistive technology. Towards robotics systems



Assistant walker



Force  
sensors

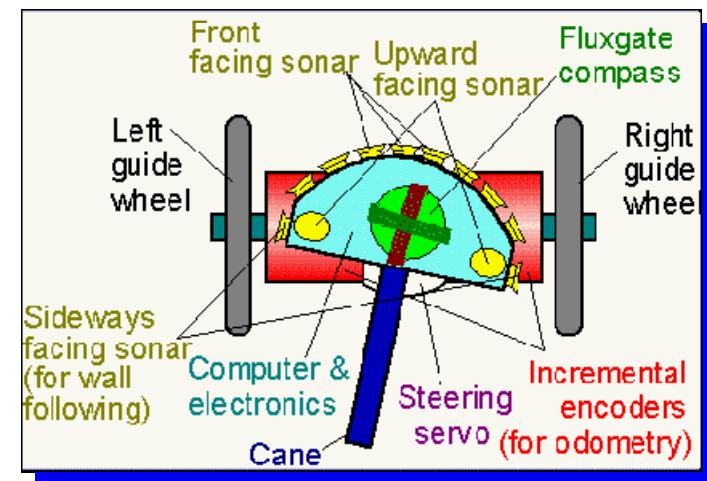
Motors



Robotic walker assistant

*Muscle weakness, joint pain, blindness → walkers*

# Evolution of assistive technology. Towards robotics systems



# Robot assistance

## Assistive

- Intelligence /Interface
- Autonomy /Interaction
- Compliance

Permanent support

- No possible recovery
- For personal autonomy

### Robot manipulator:

Feeder, assistant arm.

### Prosthesis

Replace missing limbs.

### Mobile robots:

Wheelchairs, Walker assistance, Intelligent canes  
(for mobility)

### Humanoids:

“ Human” assistant, co-worker, mate . . .

# **Assistant Robots** (Robot manipulators)

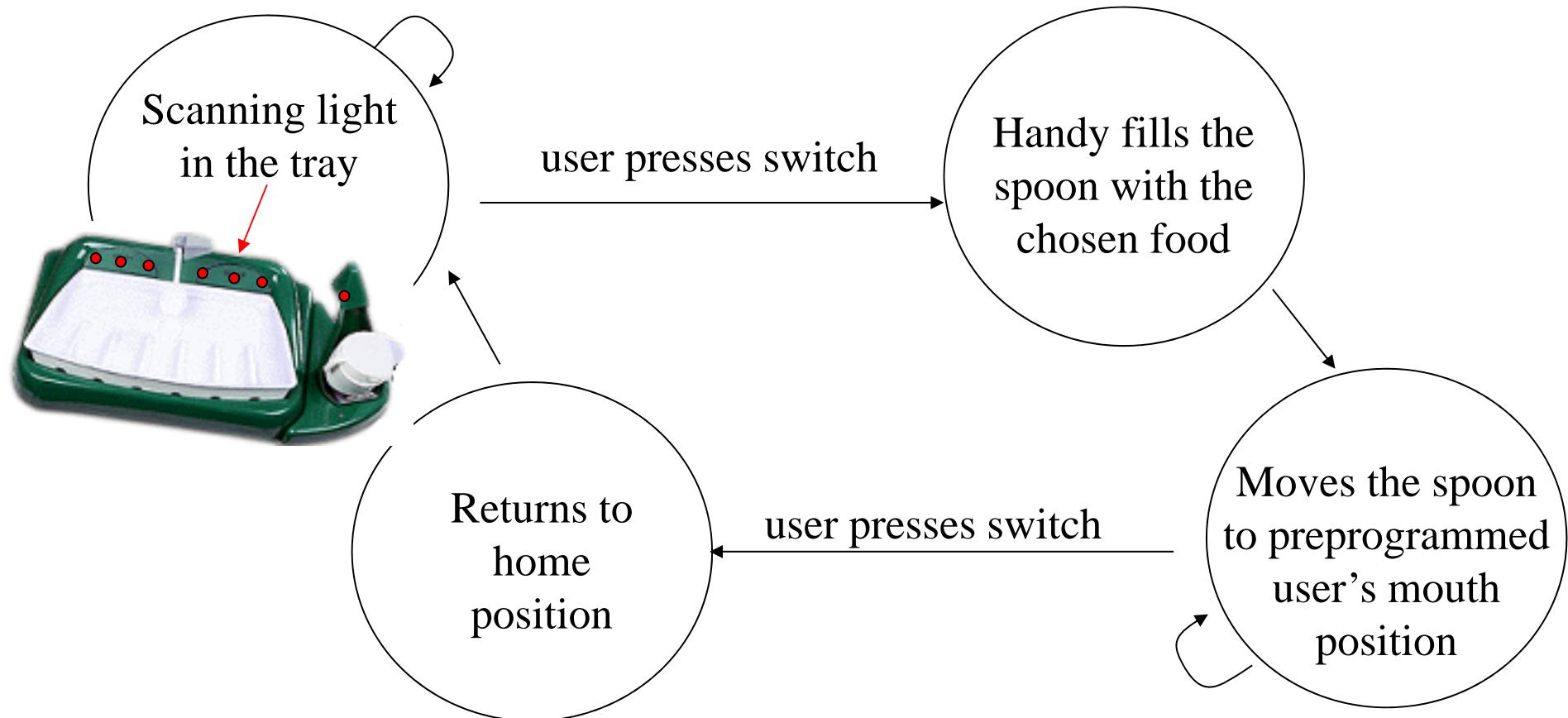
**Wheelchairs**      Human guided  
                            Navigation capabilities

# Robots specialized for an application: Handy

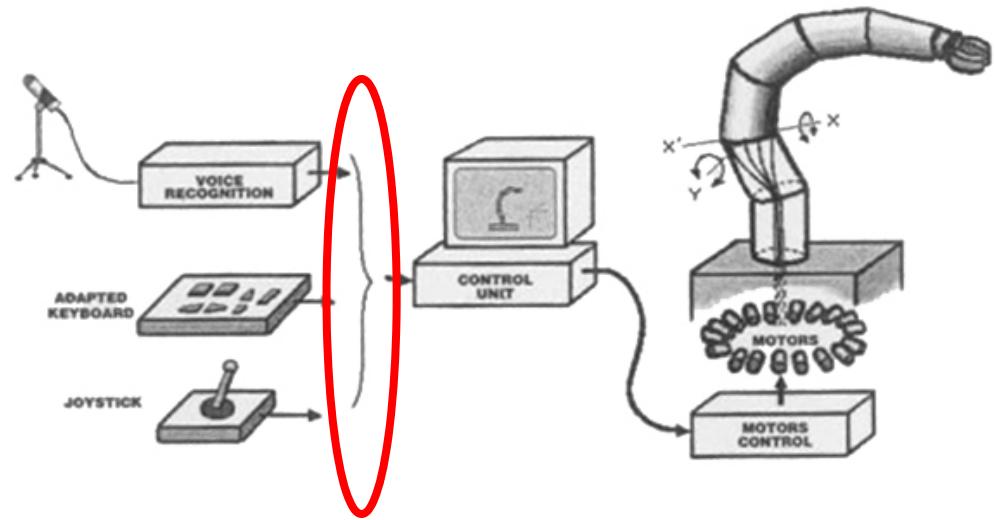
- Workspace
- Interface
- Programming
- Sensing
- Interface



# Robots specialized for an application: Handy



# Assistant robots: Tou



Standard communications

UPC (1989-94)

Simple operations: grasp and release objects, remove hair from the eyes, scratch oneself, turn pages.

Soft robotics,  
continuum

# Assistant robots: ISAC

ISAC: Intelligent Soft Arm Control

University of Vanderbilt and manufactured in Japan (1993).

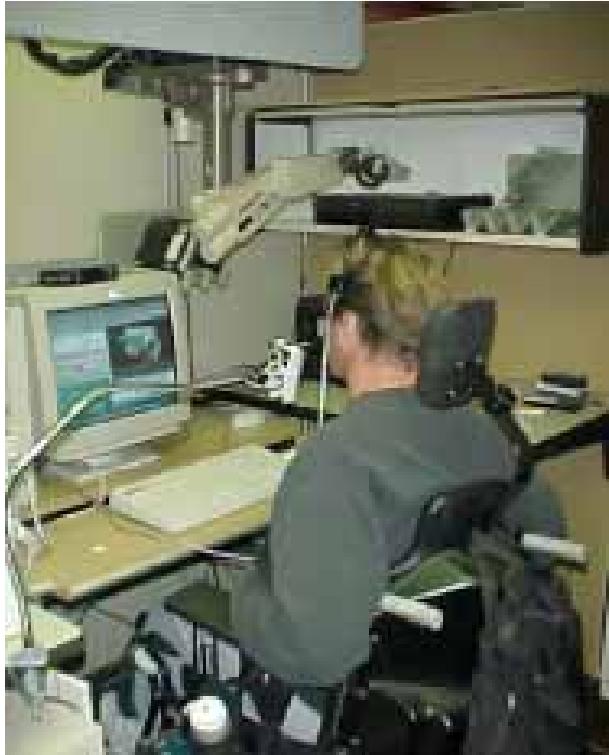
Integrated sensors for safety: vision, voice (real time face tracking), touch, proximity.

Arm with 6 joints and 12 Rubberactuators (reflex control)

(agonist/antagonist)



# Assistant robots: ProVAR and RAID



ProVAR: Professional Vocational Assistant Robot, Stanford University (1998)

- Industrial robot arm PUMA 260 on a rail for extended workspace



RAID: Robot to Assist the Integration of the Disabled

Robotic workstation.

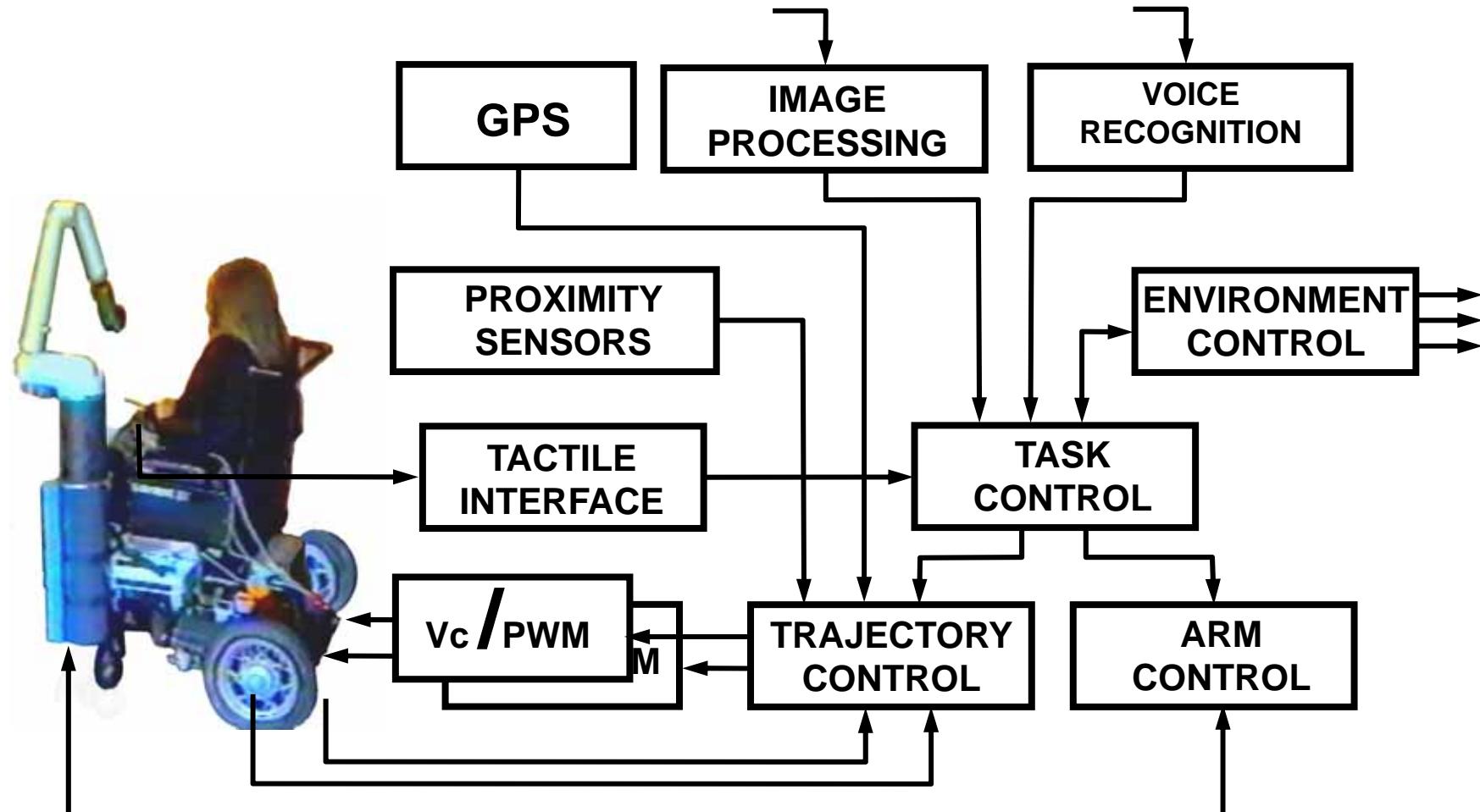
European project (1991-1996)

# Robots mounted on wheelchairs



Manus(1992)

# Robots mounted on wheelchairs



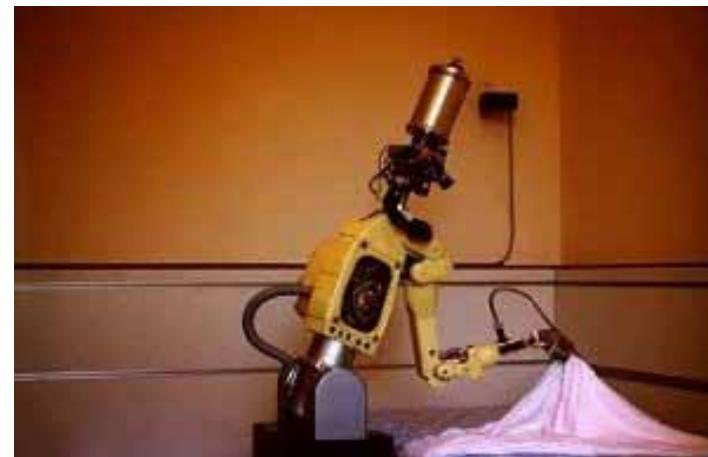
# Robots on a mobile base: MOVAID

MOVAID - MObility and actiVity  
AssIstance system for the  
Disabled

European Project (1994-1998)

Fixed workstations at home

PC controlled



# Robots on a mobile base: CARE-O-BOT



# Robots on a mobile base: CARE-O-BOT



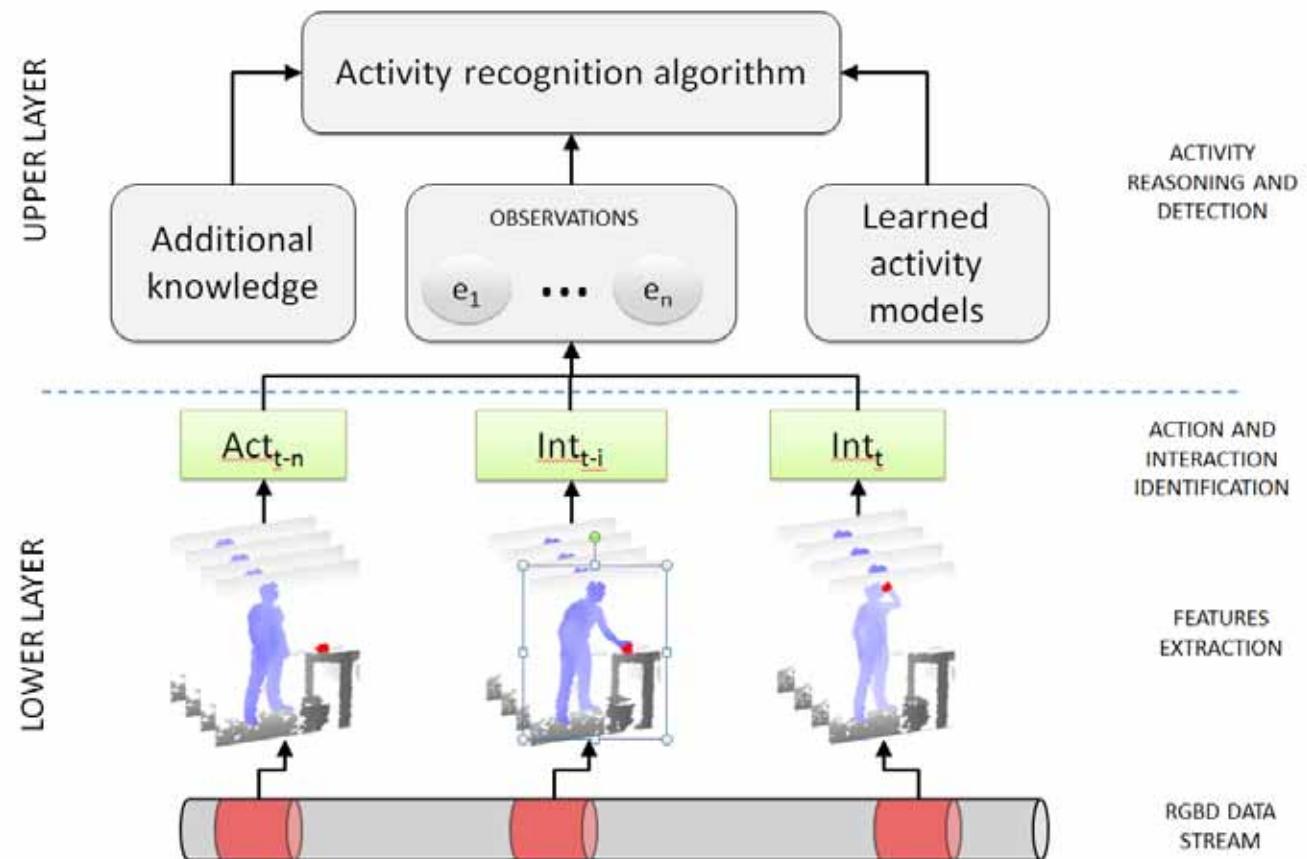
# Robots on a mobile base: CARE-O-BOT



## CAPDI: The GRINS (UPC) robotized kitchen



# Robots in domestic environments



Interaction based on activity recognition

# Half body- Humanoid



Manipulation:  
Pick and place



Manipulation and actuation

# Half body- Humanoid



Manipulation and actuation

# The robot companion

- Pets
- Toys /dolls
- Humanoids

Social Robots

# The robot companion

Pets



# The robot companion



Penguin: Robot receptionist (a precedent)

# The robot companion

Toys /  
dolls



# The robot companion



© InTouch Health

# The robot companion

## Humanoids



# The robot companion

## Humanoids

- Walking
- Stability
- Energy
- Autonomy



# **Assistant Robots** (Manipulators, Robotic Wheelchairs)

## **Wheelchairs and Walkers**

Human guided  
Navigation capabilities

# Wheelchairs evolution

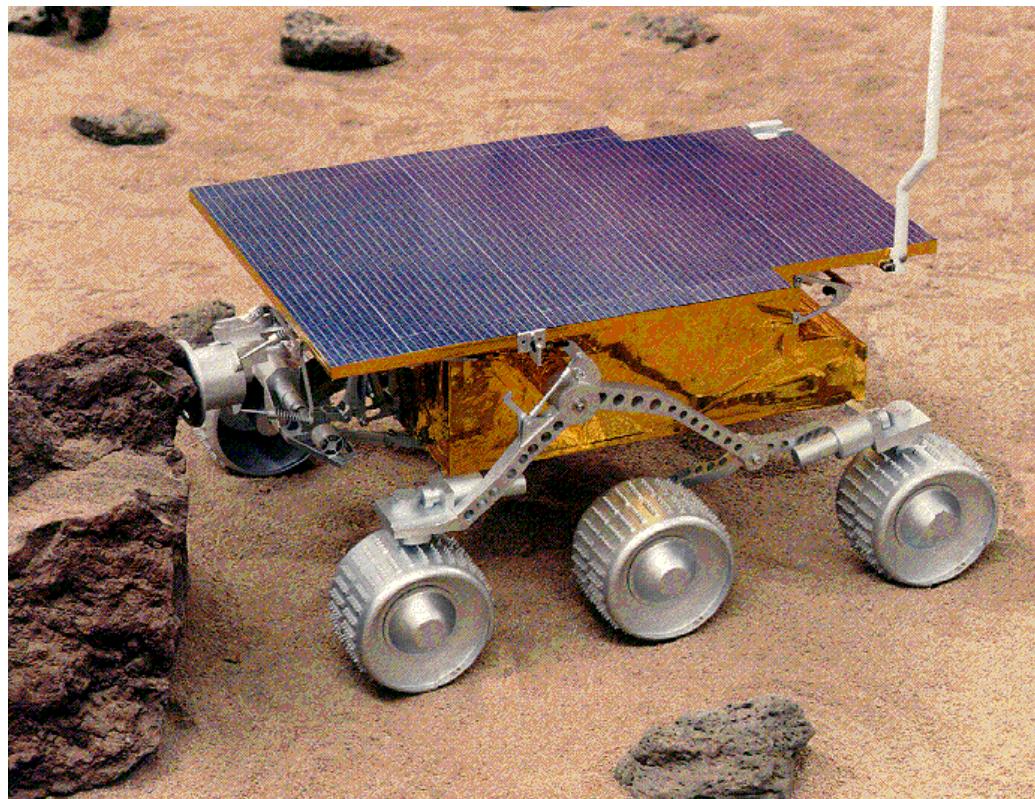


# Adapted Vehicles

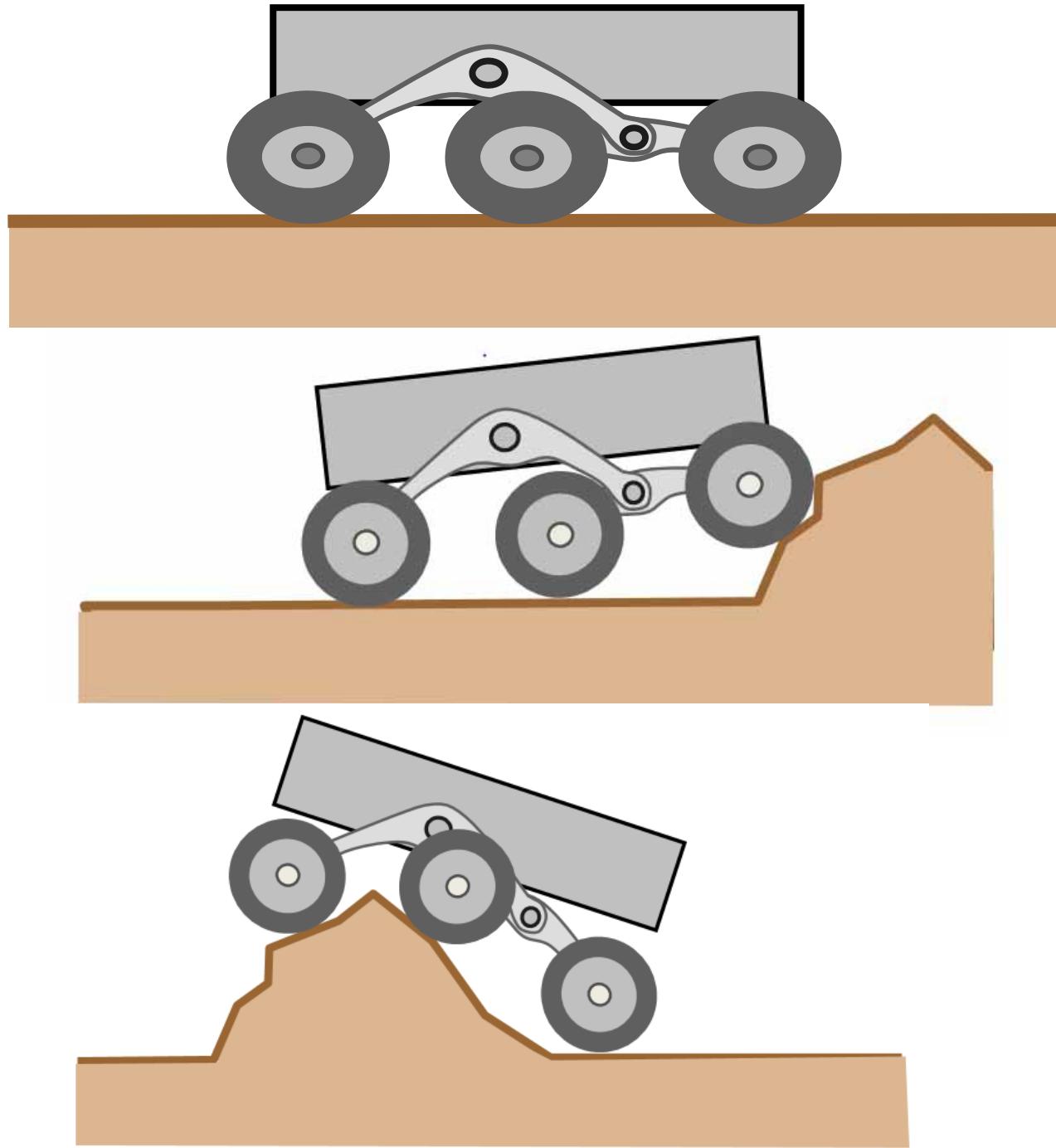


# Wheelchairs evolution

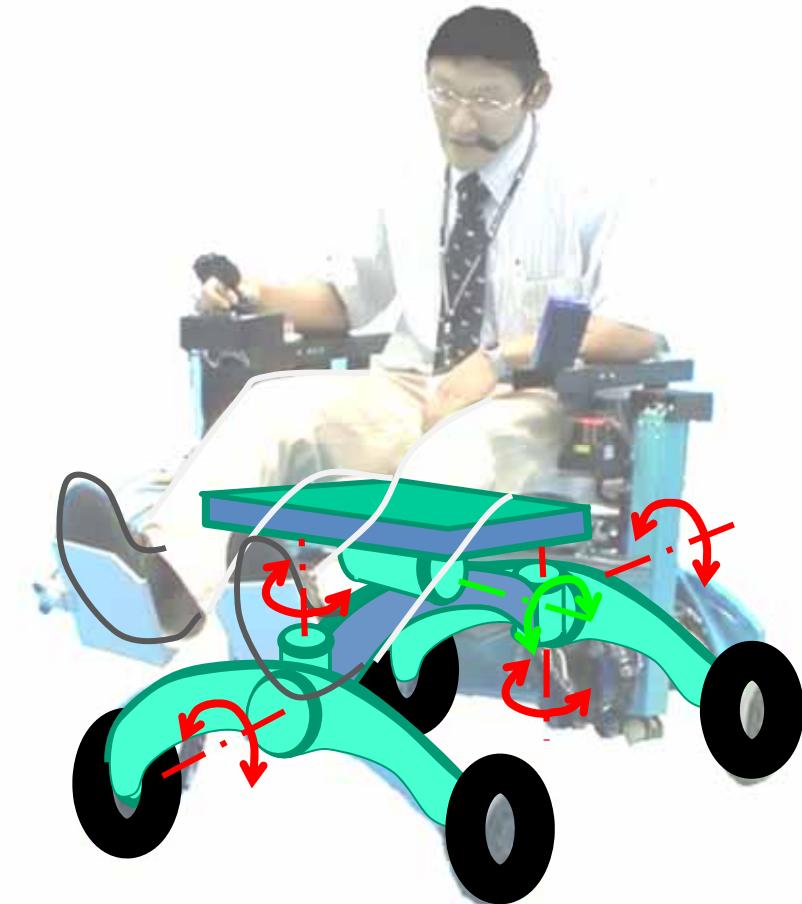
Multiple wheels



Mars exploration 1997, *Sojourner*



# Wheelchairs evolution: articulated wheels



Wheelchair with robotized support

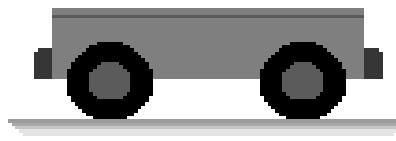
| Type  | Support                                | Speed                               | Characteristics   |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| Wheels               | Flat surfaces<br>No Obstacles          | High<br>(0-3m/s.)                   | Economic<br>Light   |
| Multiple wheels      | Flats surfaces<br>No Obstacles         | High<br>(0-3 m/s.)                  | High<br>maneuverability   |
| Roller based wheels  | Very flats<br>surfaces<br>No Obstacles | Medium<br>(0-1 m/s.)                | Very High<br>maneuverability  |
| Caterpillar         | Irregular surfaces<br>Climbing stairs  | Medium<br>(0-1 m/s.)                | Adaptable to different heights.<br>Standing up option.<br>Ability to overcome obstacles |
| Legs               | Irregular surfaces<br>No obstacles     | Low on<br>obstacles<br>(0-0,4 m/s.) | Adaptable to different heights.<br>Ability to overcome obstacles.                       |
| Hybrid             | Irregular surfaces<br>No obstacles     | Low on<br>obstacles<br>(0-0,4 m/s.) | Ability to overcome obstacles.  |

# Robotizing wheelchairs

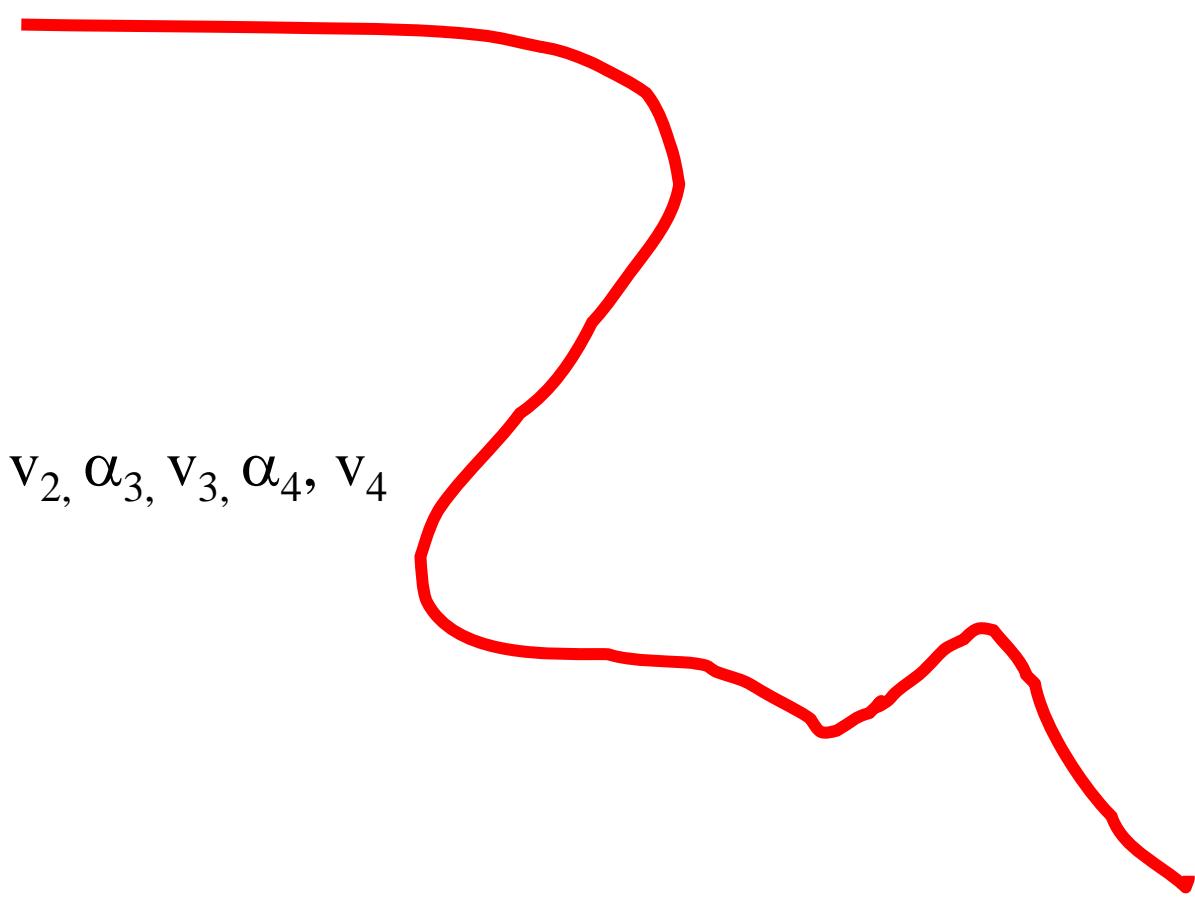
## Automation

- Obstacle detection
- Speed regulation / Speed limit
- **Direction control**
- **Maneuverability / Trajectories**
- Localization / Navigation
- Wall following / lines

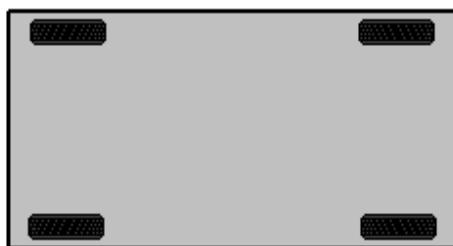
# Trajectory → Inverse Kinematics



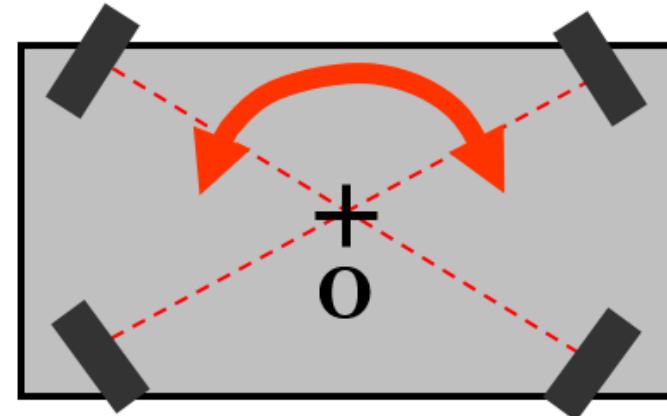
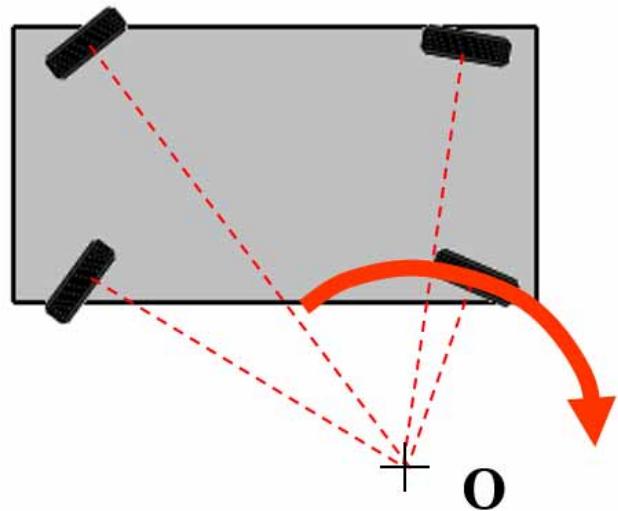
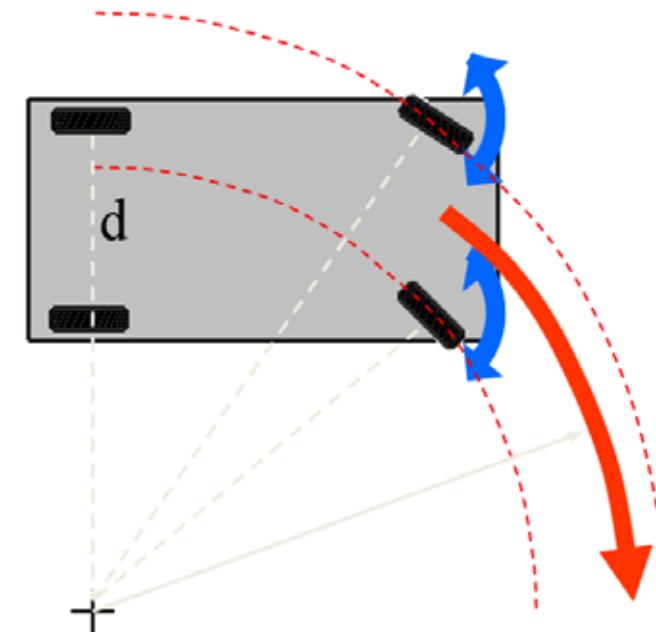
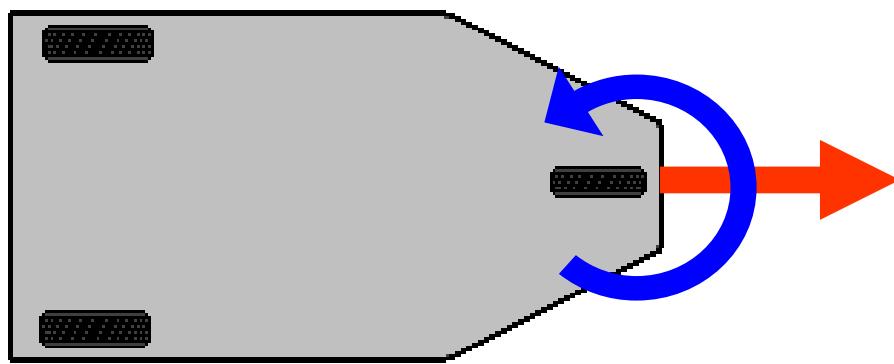
Wheels



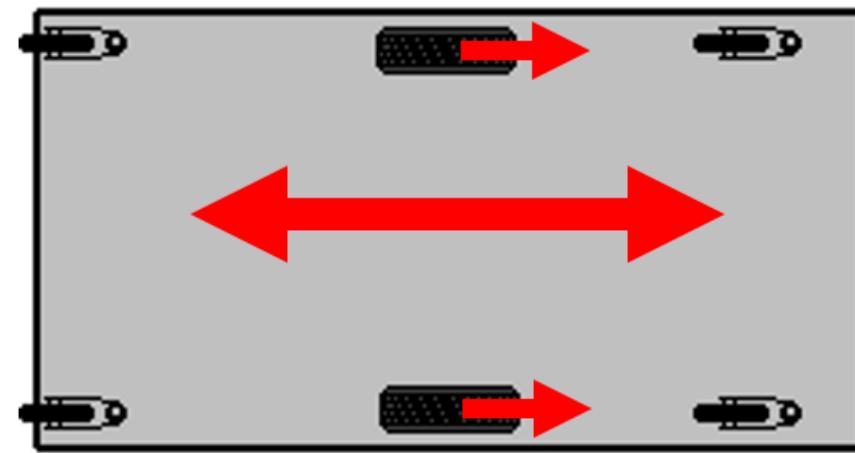
$X, Y, \theta \rightarrow \alpha_1, v_1, \alpha_2, v_2, \alpha_3, v_3, \alpha_4, v_4$



# Example of architectures



# Example of architectures

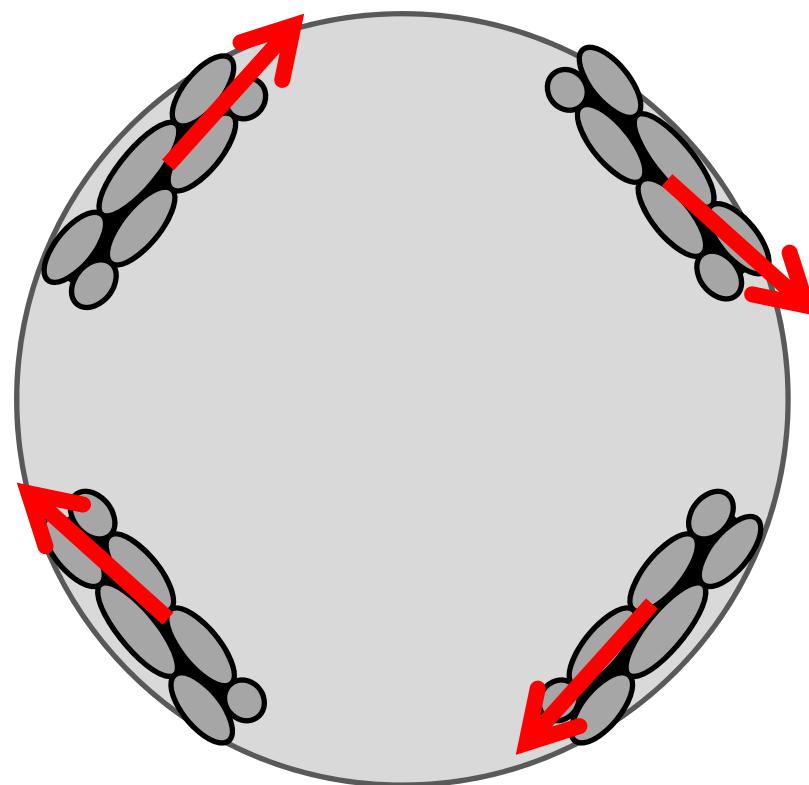


# Special wheels



Mecano wheel  
Omnidirectional

# Vehicle with omnidirectional wheels



Same input to all wheels

## How a vehicle with omnidirectional wheels can move straight ahead

