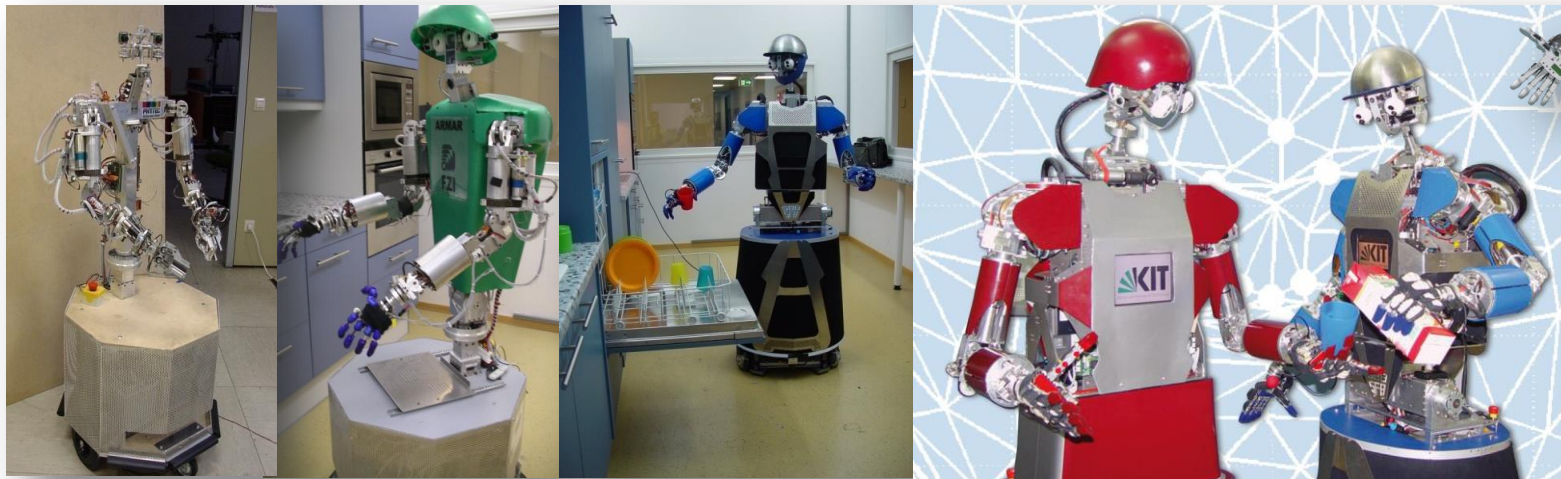


# Humanoid Robotics: From Household Assistants to Personalized Robot Suits

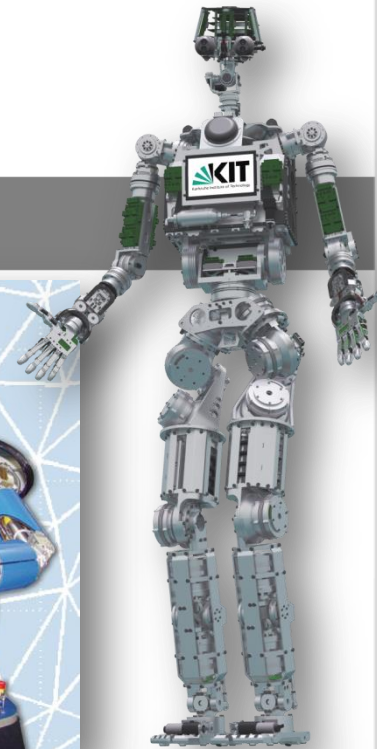
Tamim Asfour  
High Performance Humanoid Technologies (H<sup>2</sup>T)

Institute for Anthropomatics and Robotics, Humanoid Robotic Systems



<http://www.humanoids.kit.edu>

<http://h2t.anthropomatik.kit.edu>



# My team

## Humanoids@KIT



# Humanoids in the real world

- Grasping and manipulation

- Learning for human observation



- Natural Interaction and communication



# ARMAR-III in the RoboKITchen

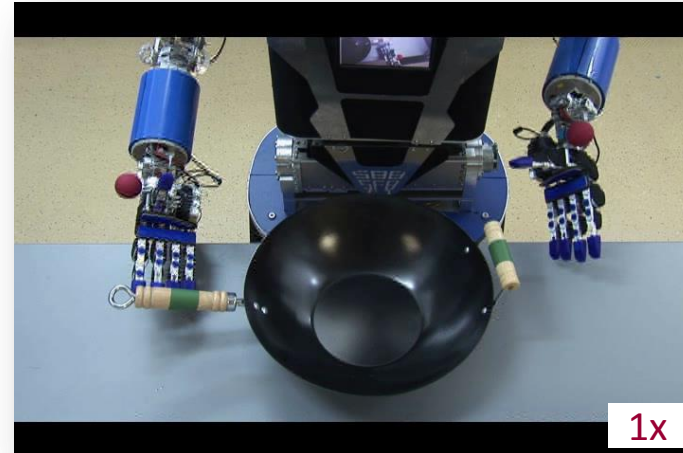
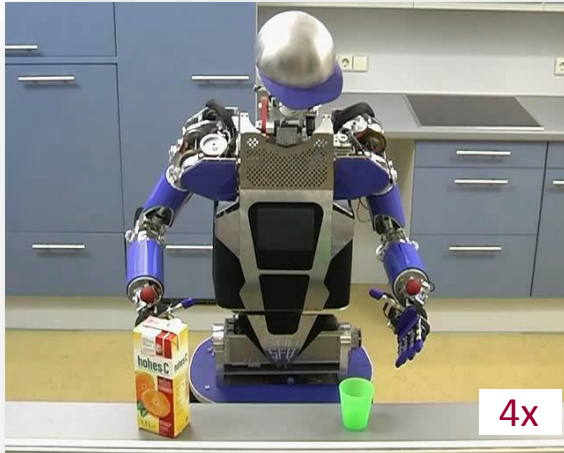
- Object recognition and localization
- Vision-based grasping
- Hybrid position/force control
- Combining force and vision for opening and closing door tasks
- Collision-free navigation
- Vision-based self-localisation
- Multimodal human-robot dialogs
- Continuous speech recognition
- Learning new objects, persons and words
- Audio-visual tracking and localization
- ...



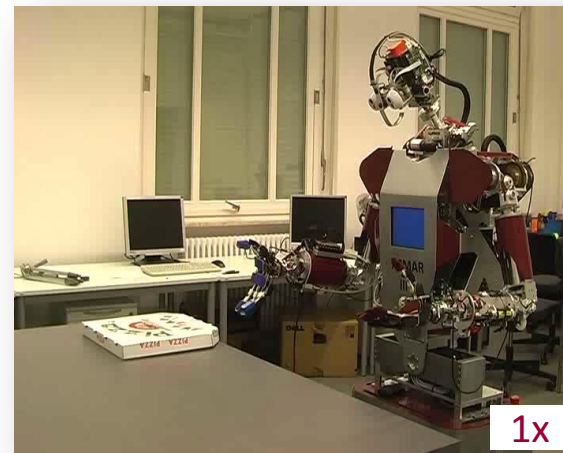
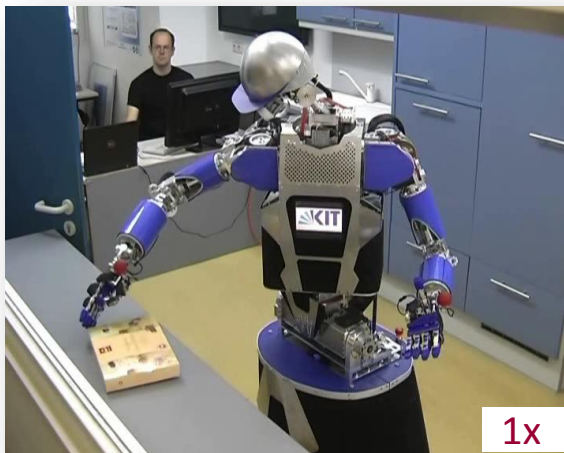


# Advanced grasping capabilities

## ■ Bimanual grasping and manipulation



## ■ Pre-grasp manipulation

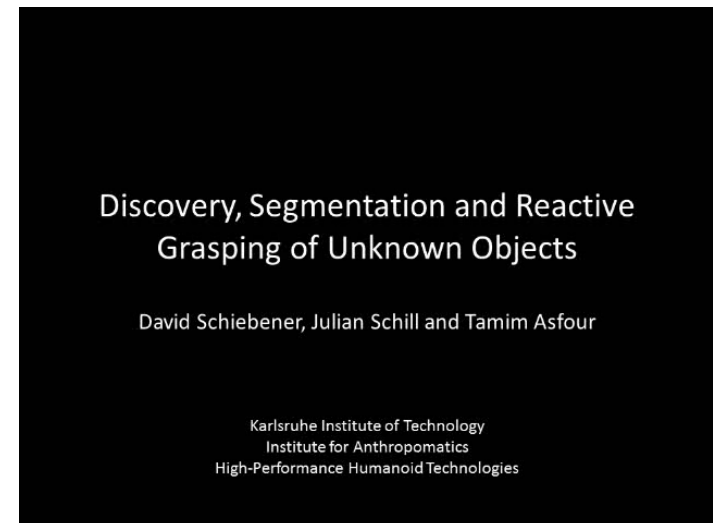


*RAM 2012  
IROS 2011  
Humanoids 2010  
Humanoids 2009  
RAS 2008*

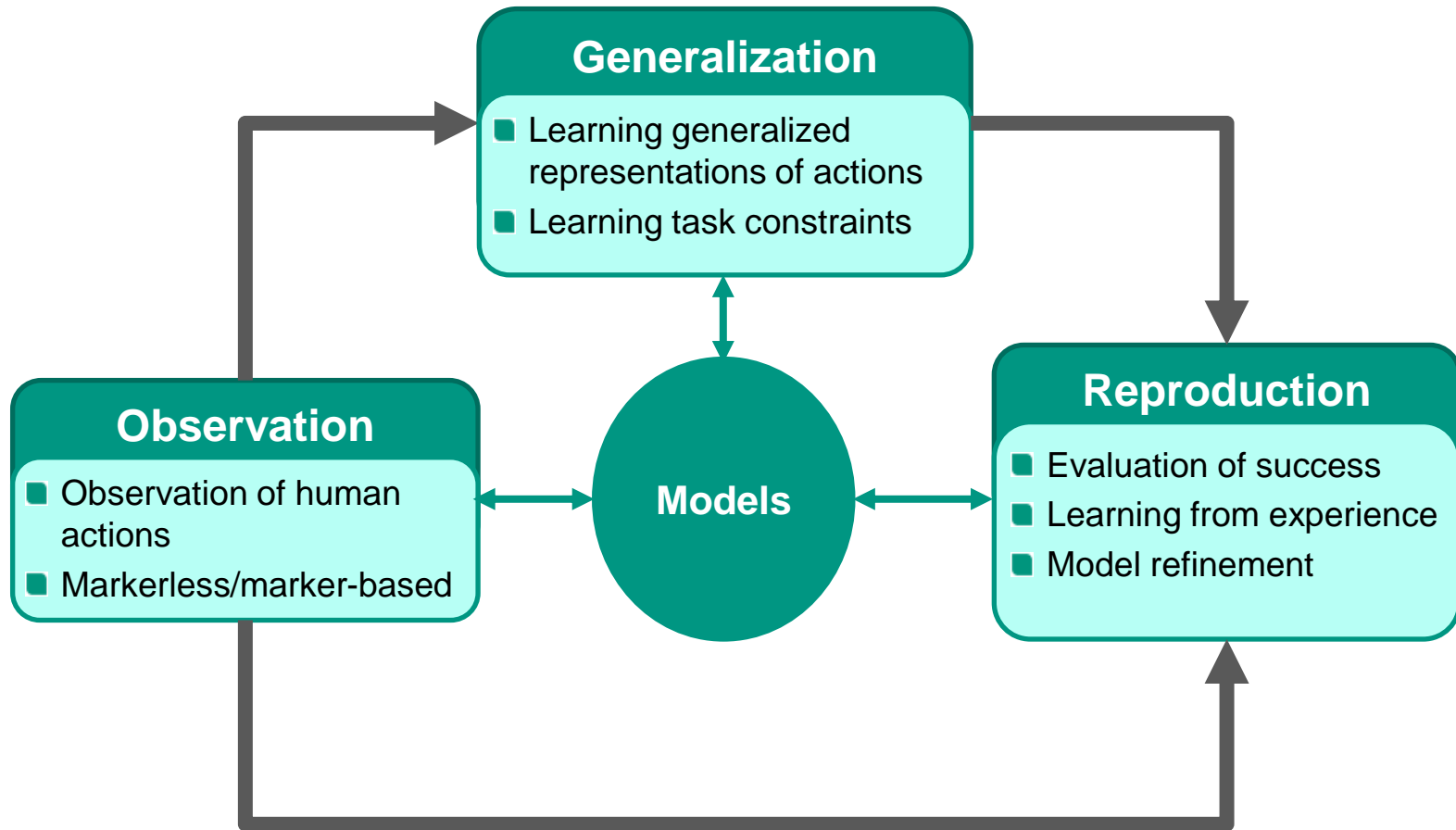
# Discover, segment and grasp unknown objects

- Physical interaction (pushing) to separate unknown object from unknown background
- Reliable, correct and complete object segmentation
- Reactive grasping based on haptic feedback:
  - No object model needed
  - No grasping planning

*ICRA 2012, 2014,  
Humanoids 2011, 2012  
Adaptive Behavior 2013*

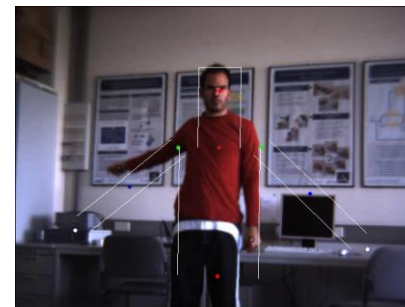
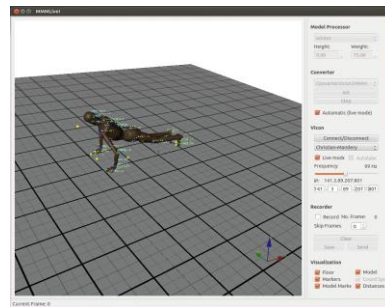
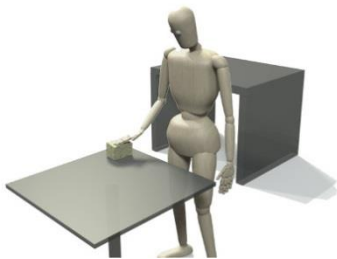
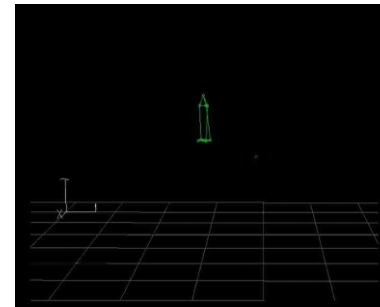
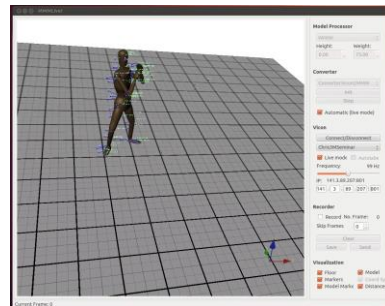
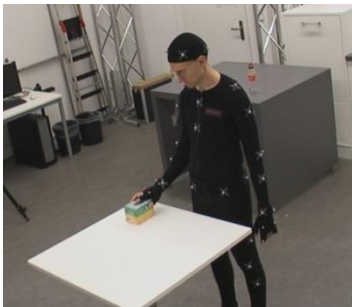
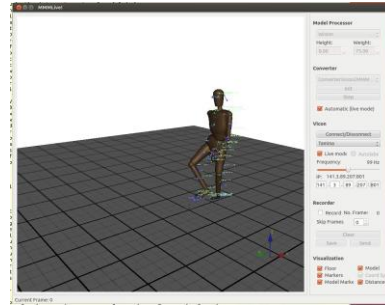


# Learning from human observation





# Observation: markerless and marker-based



KIT motion database <https://motion-database.humanoids.kit.edu>

# Learning from observation

- Building a library of motion primitives
- Dynamic movement primitives (DMP) for discrete and periodic movements

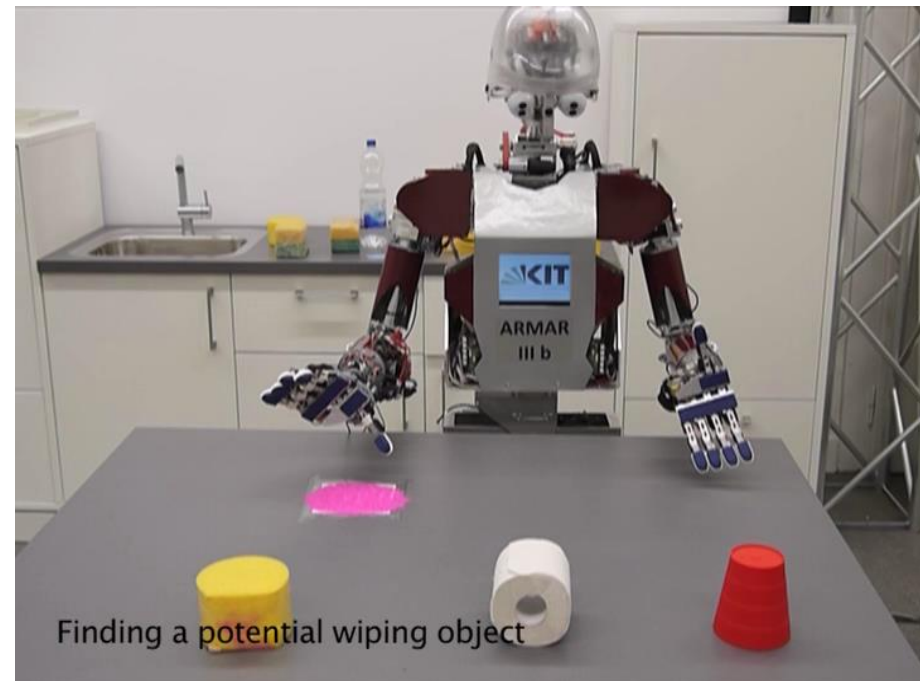
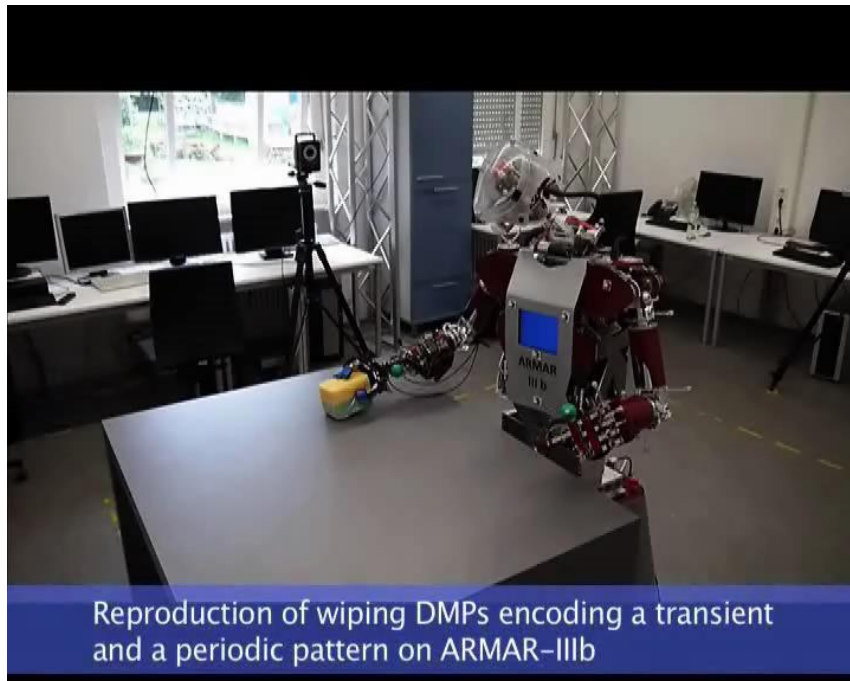


Humanoids 2006, IJHR 2008, Humanoids 2007, ICRA 2009, Humanoids 2009, TRO 2010, Humanoids 2012



# Learn to wipe

- One dynamical system for discrete and periodic motions
- Learn relations between object properties and action parameters



Humanoids 2012, ICRA 2014



# Learning from human observation – prepare the dough



# Learning from human observation

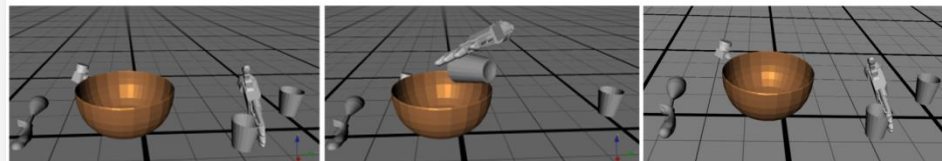
- Hierarchical segmentation approach which not only considers motion but also relevant objects
  - **Semantic** segmentation based on object relation
  - **Motion** segmentation based on trajectory characteristics



Human Demonstration



Converted Demonstration



Object-Relation Segmentation

No contact	Cup in left hand	No contact
------------	------------------	------------

Motion Characteristic Segmentation & Recognition

Grasp	Lift	Pour	Place	Retreat
-------	------	------	-------	---------

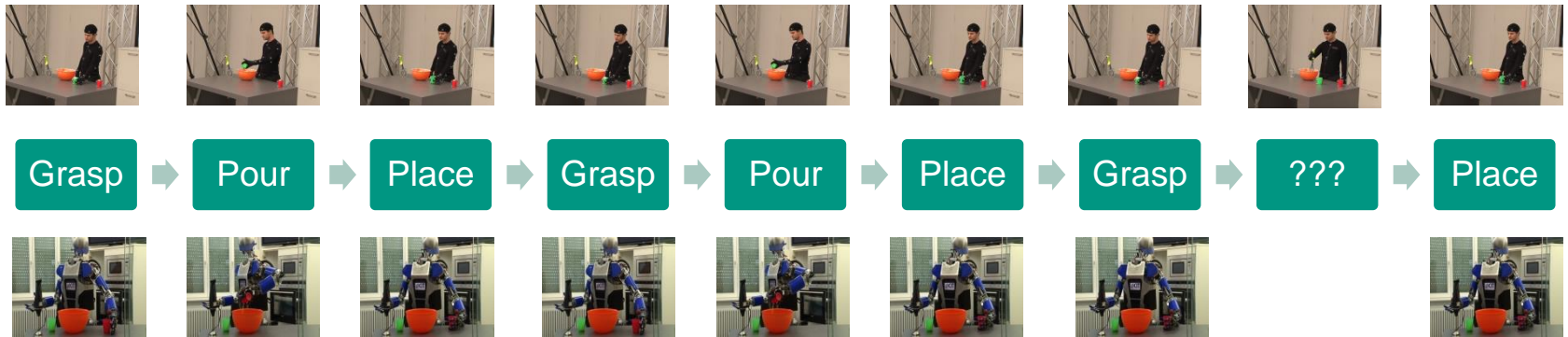
# Hierarchical action segmentation

## Observation, Representation and Segmentation of preparing batter

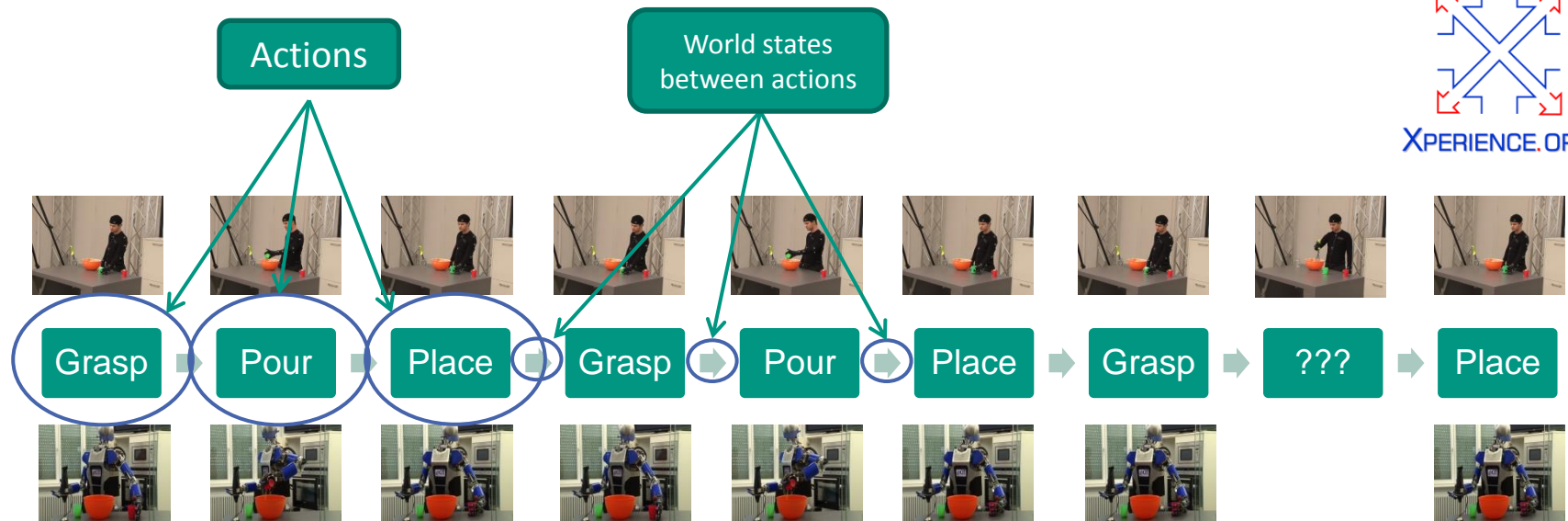
Based on Geometrical Simulation &  
Object Contact Relation Changes



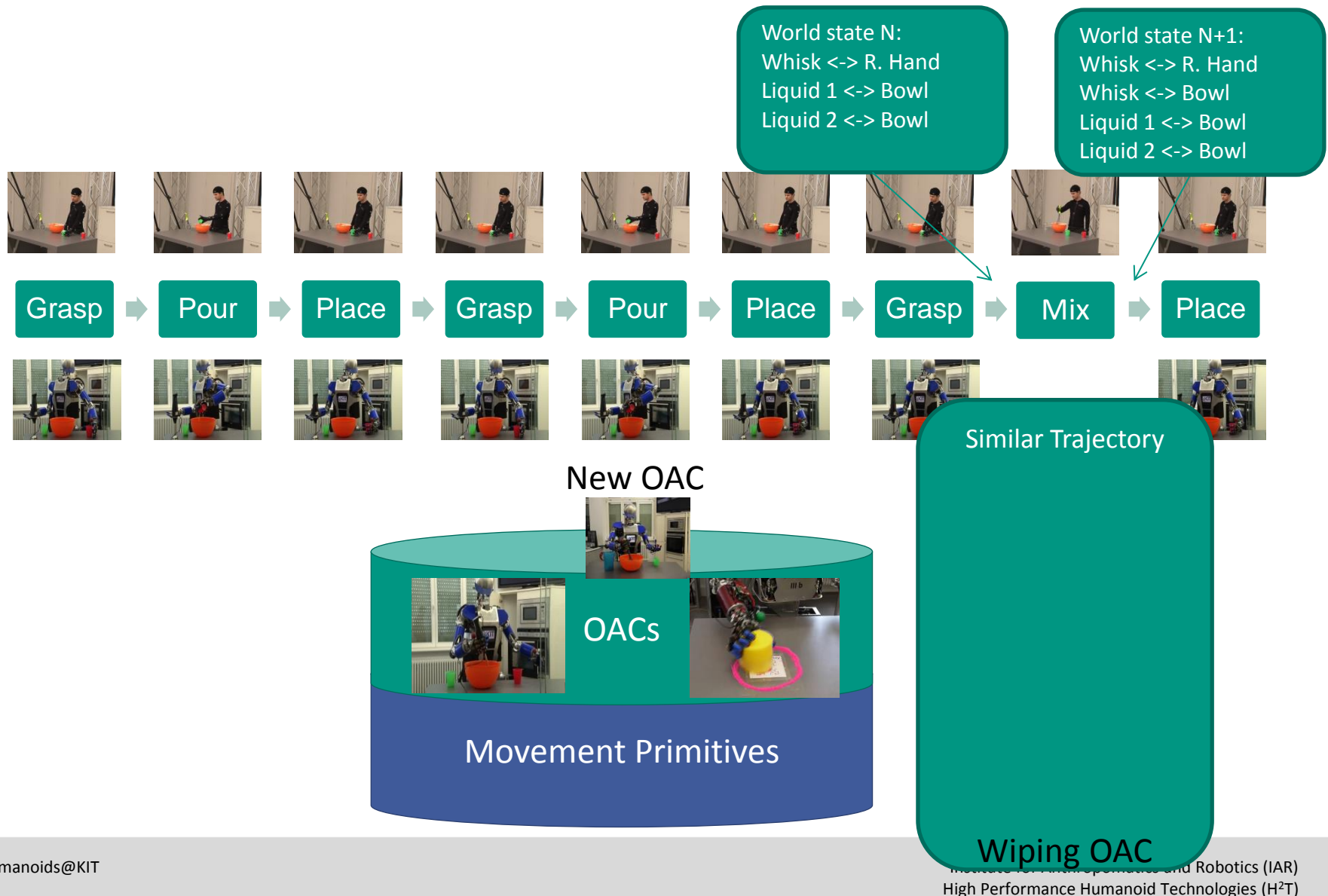
# Understanding human demonstration (I)



# Understanding actions and their effects



# Action replacement from a motion library





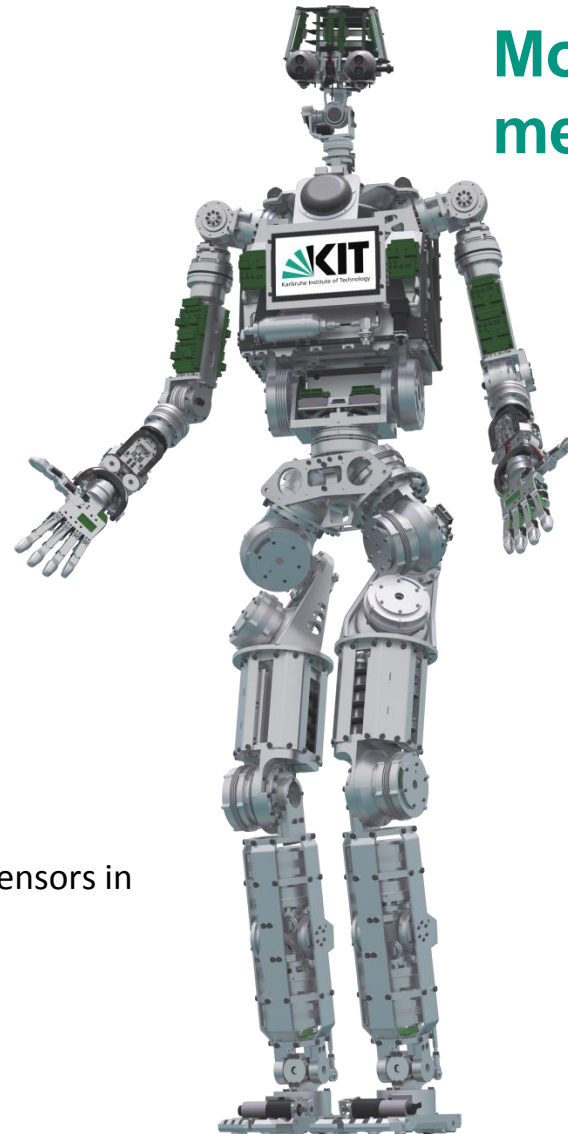
# Learning from observation – prepare the dough



# ARMAR-IV: Mechano-Informatics

- Torque controlled
- 3 on-board embedded PCs
- 76 Microcontroller
- 6 CAN Buses
- 63 DOF
  - 41 electrically-driven
  - 22 pneumatically-driven (Hand)
- 238 Sensors
  - 4 Cameras
  - 6 Microphones
  - 4 6D-force-torque sensors
  - 2 IMUs
  - 128 position (incremental and absolute), torque and temperature sensors in arm, leg and hip joints
  - 18 position (incremental and absolute) sensors in head joints
  - 14 load cells in the feet
  - 22 encoders in hand joints
  - 20 pressure sensors in hand actuators
  - ...

More than  
mechatronics



ARMAR-IV

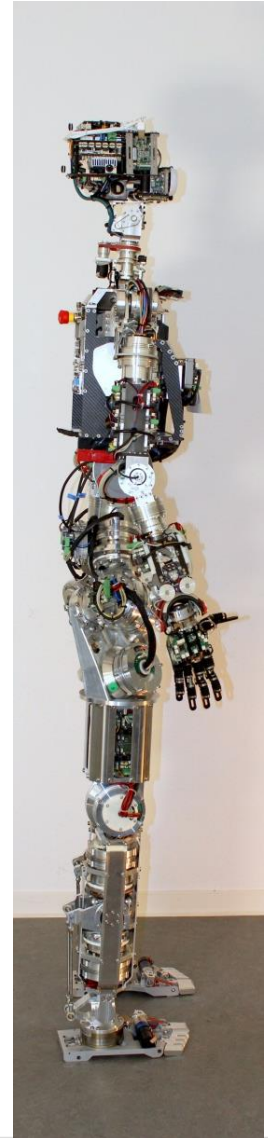
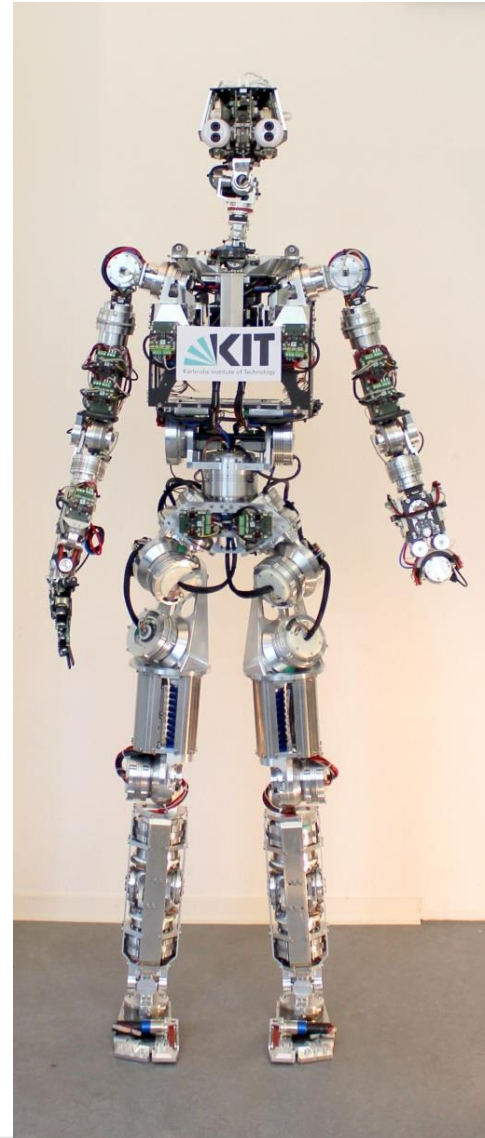
made@KIT

70 kg

170 cm

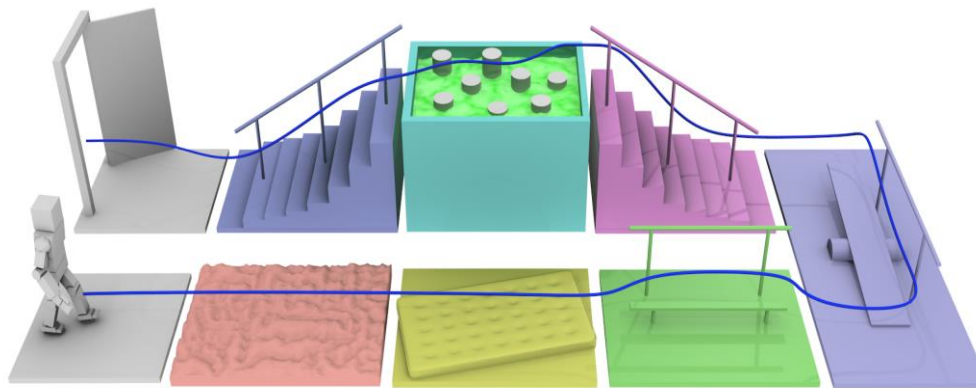
# ARMAR-IV

- 63 DOF
- 170 cm
- 70 kg
- Torque-controlled!

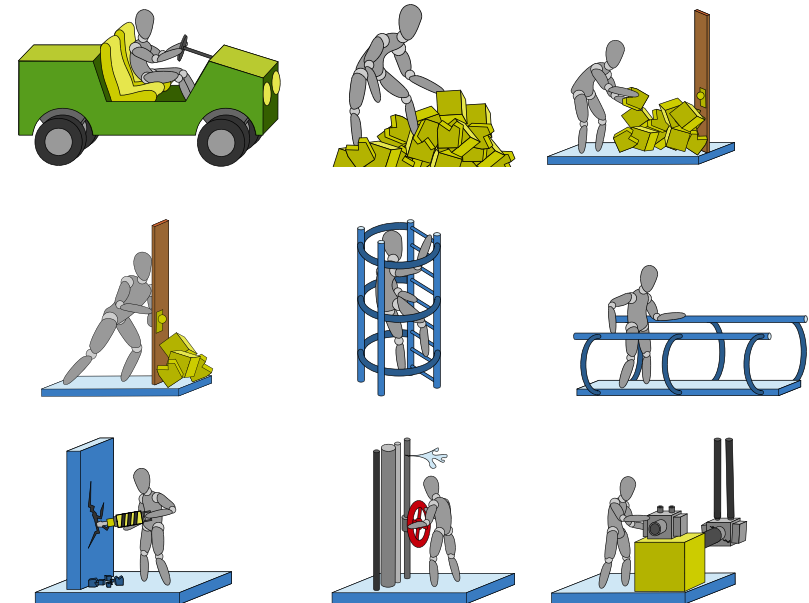


# Whole body loco-manipulation tasks

- Koroibot: 2013-2016
- WALK-MAN: 2013-2017



Improving walking behavior based on human walking motion



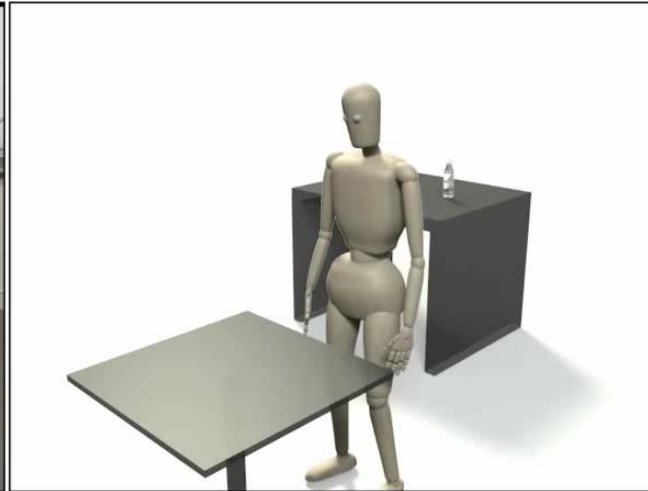
Whole-Body Loco-manipulation tasks



Walking on a beam

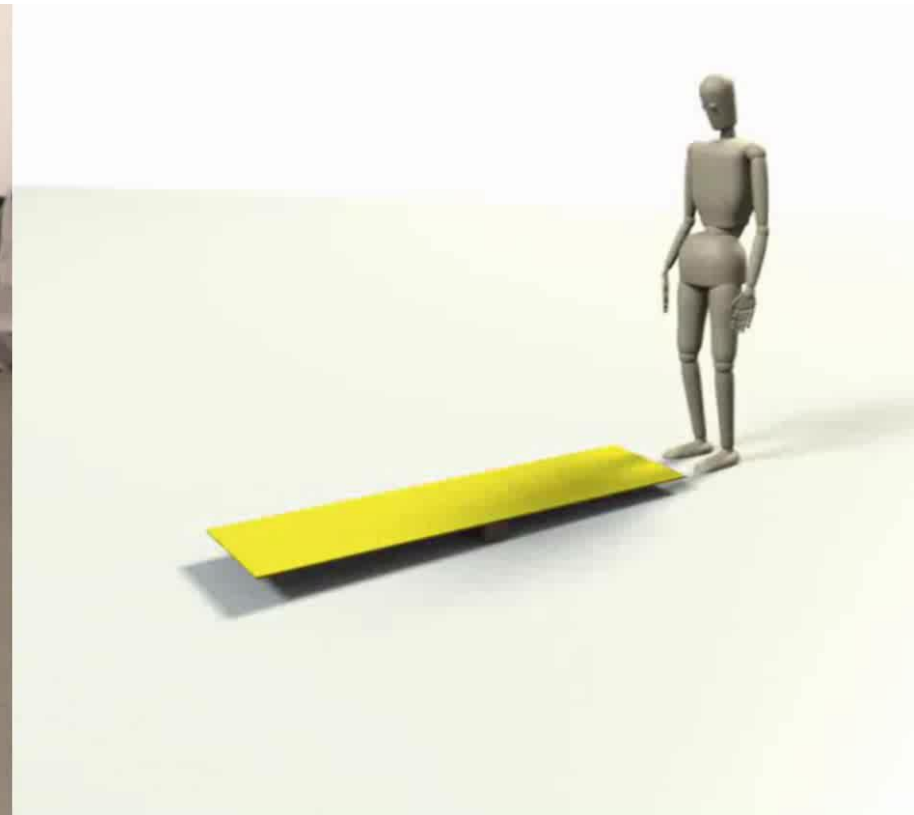
## Kinematic Mapping from recordings to robot motions

# Motion generation with objects



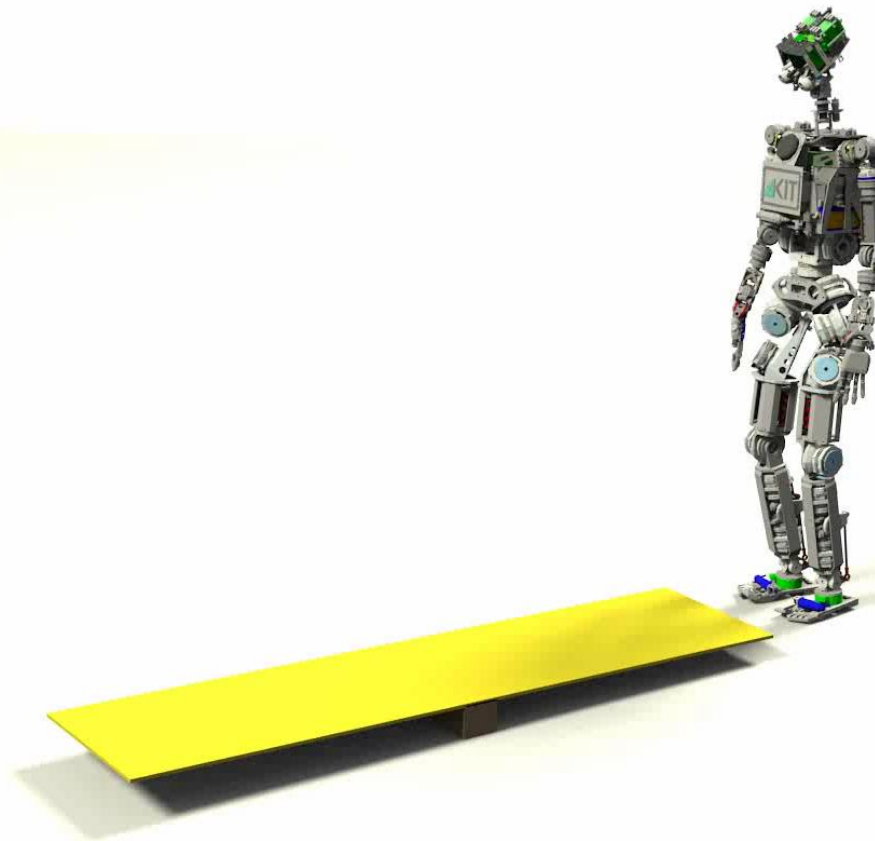
**Motion conversion with the MMM Toolkit**

# Motion generation with objects

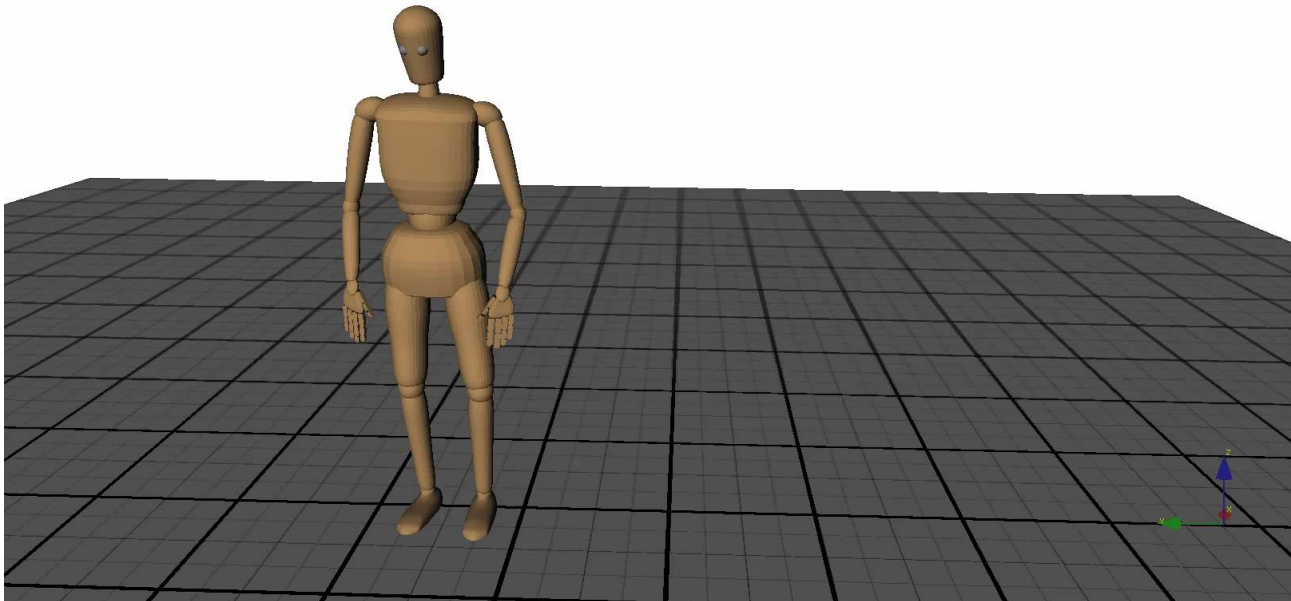




# Motion generation with objects

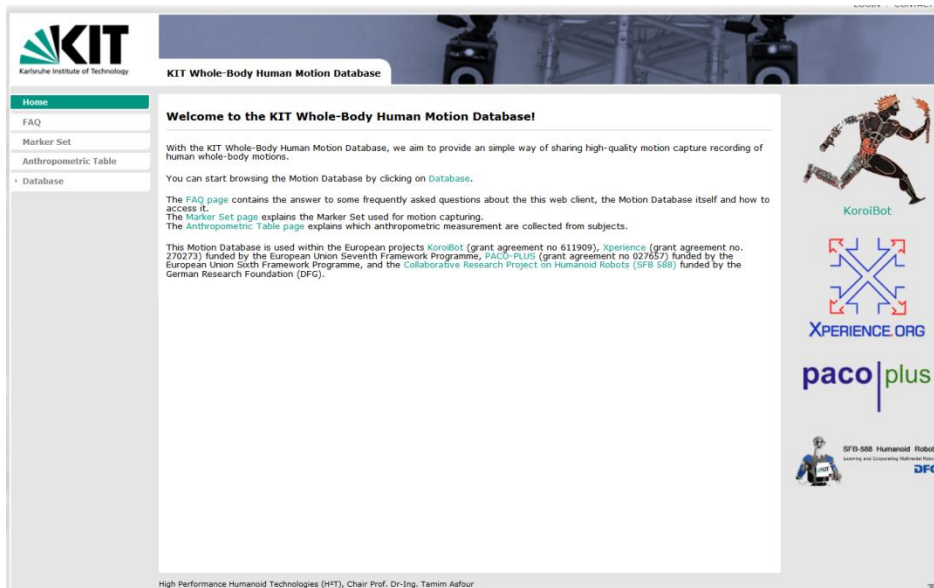


# Motion generation for push recovery



# KIT Whole-body human motion database

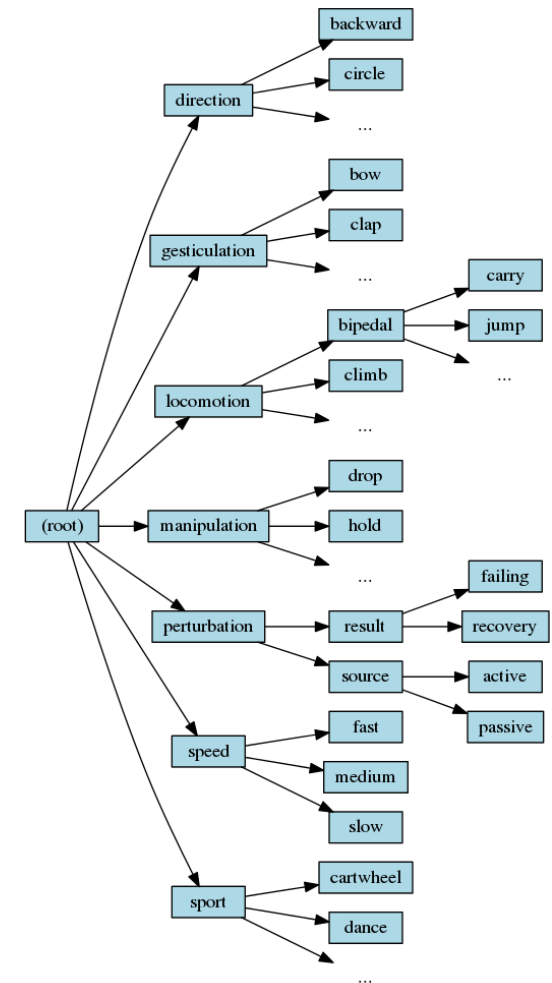
- Publicly available at:  
<https://motion-database.humanoids.kit.edu/>



- > 300 recording sessions
- > 4000 recorded motion clips
- > 20 GB of data
- ~ 10h of motion data

# Motion Description Tree

- **Classification system** for human whole-body motions
- **Hierarchical** tag declaration describing motion type and other parameters (speed, stability, ...)
- Allows **efficient search** for motions of a certain type in the database
- Creation of the tree structure is based on the **lexical database WordNet**
  - ➔ **motion semantics** which support action segmentation and sequencing





# “From motion to text/language and back”

*A person walks fast forward.  
During walk, she/he is pushed,  
but she/he recovers from the  
push without falling*



## Classification in the Motion Description Tree:

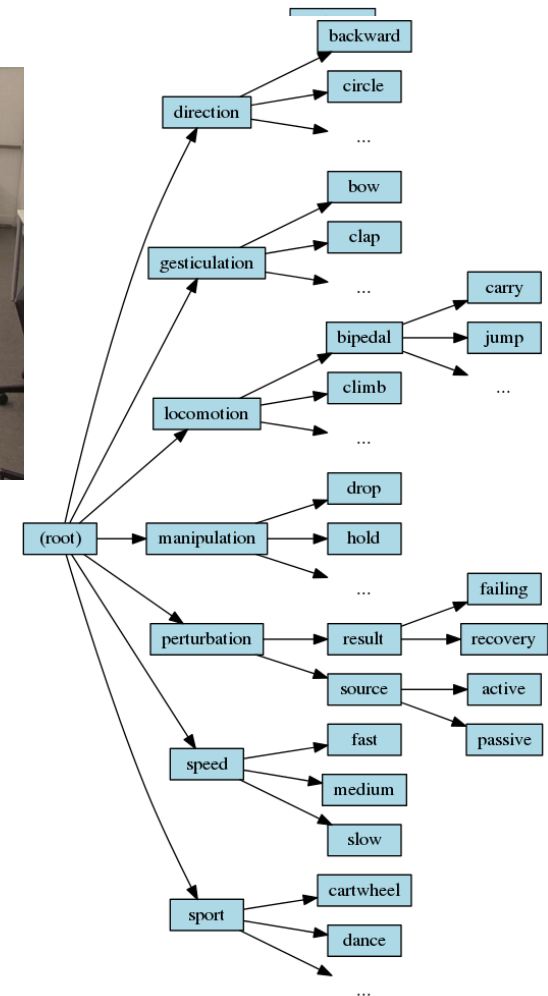
direction → forward

locomotion → bipedal → walk

perturbation → result → recovery

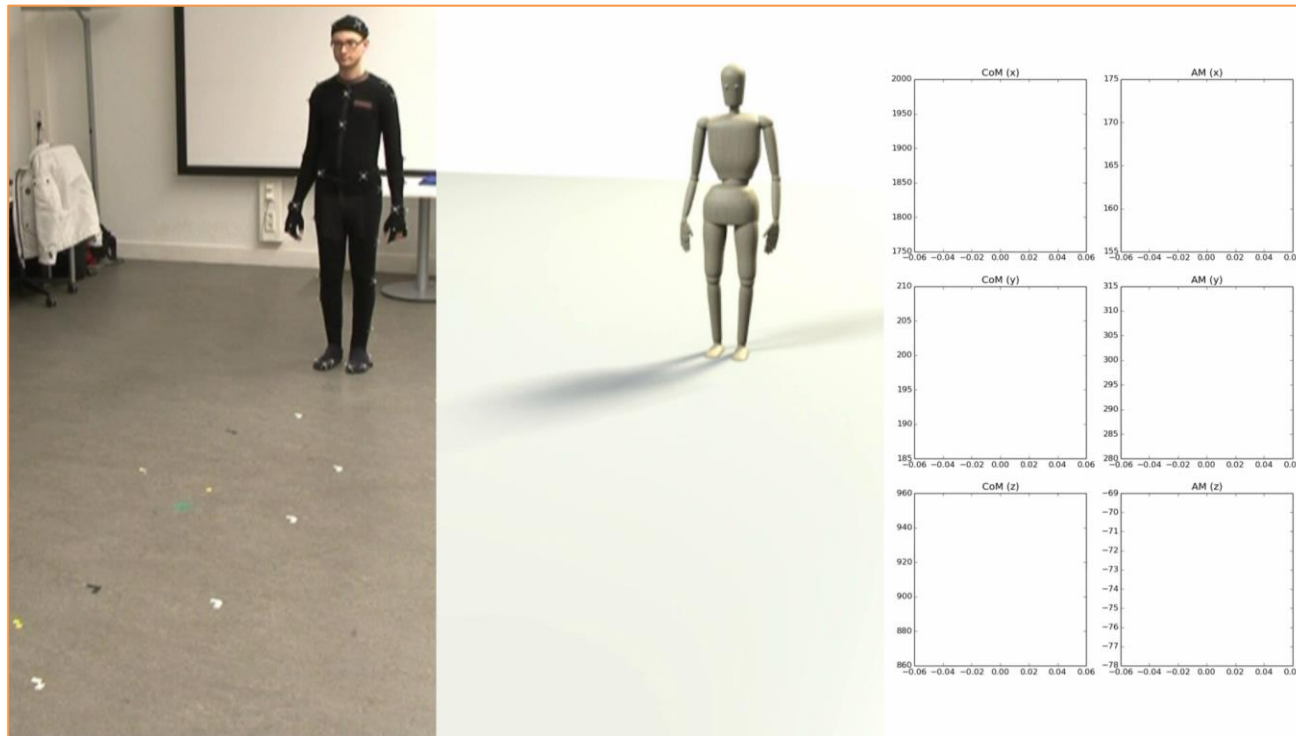
perturbation → source → active

speed → fast



# CoM and AM computation ...

- automatically for all recordings in the database
- Code is part of the MMM tools

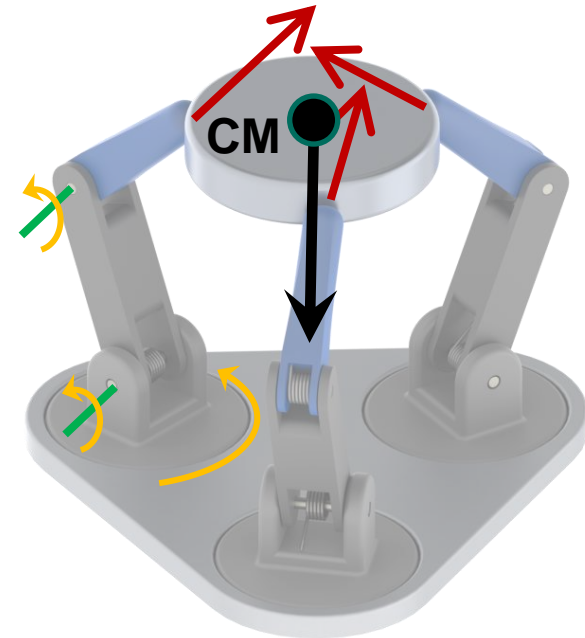
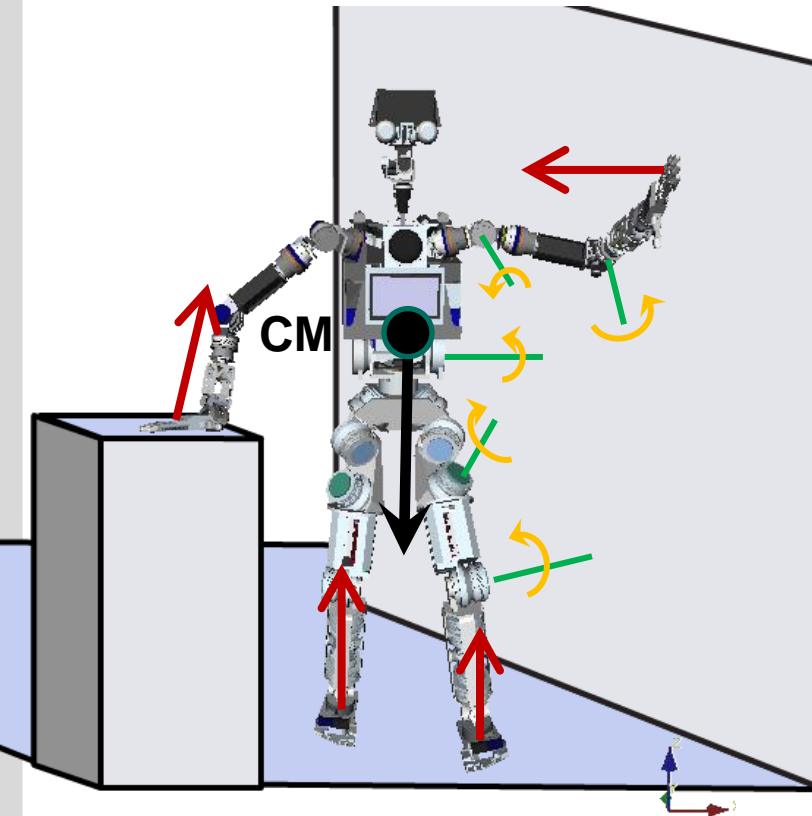


# From grasping to balancing

- A stable whole-body configuration of a humanoid robot can be seen as a stable grasp on an object.
- Association of whole-body actions with objects and environmental elements?

# From grasping to balancing

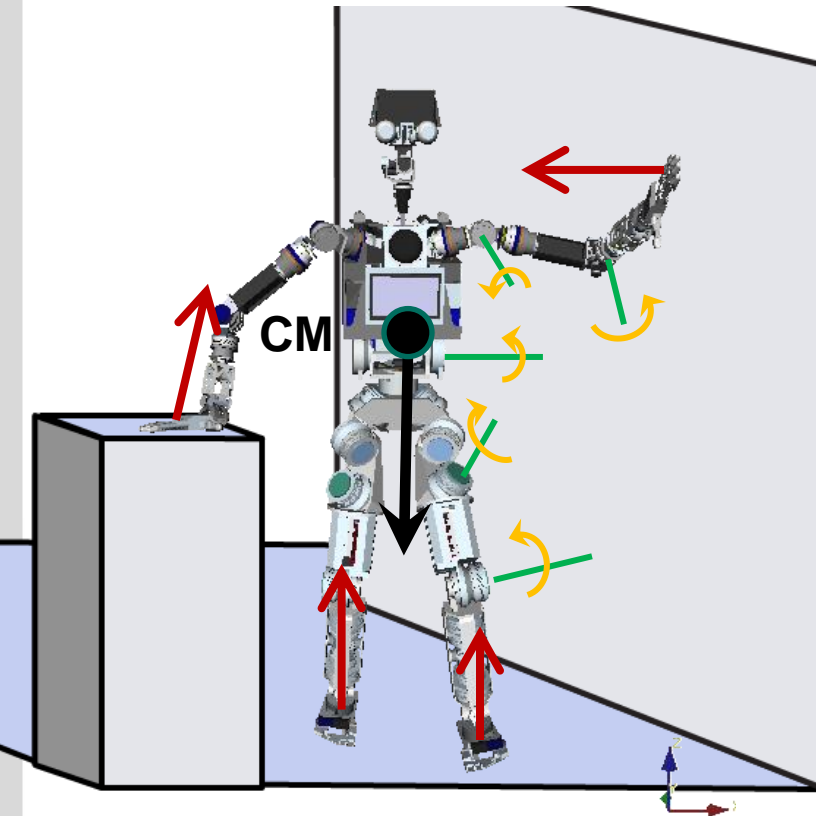
Equilibrium is reached by balancing similar sets of forces



Ground reaction forces	↔	Fingertip forces
Weight of the body (CM)	↔	Weight of the object (CM)
Torques on the joints	↔	Torques on the joints



# From grasping to balancing



Concepts of grasping can be applied to loco-manipulation

$$\mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{T} = \mathbf{J}_H \dot{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}$$

$$\mathbf{J}_H^T \boldsymbol{\lambda}_f = \boldsymbol{\tau}$$

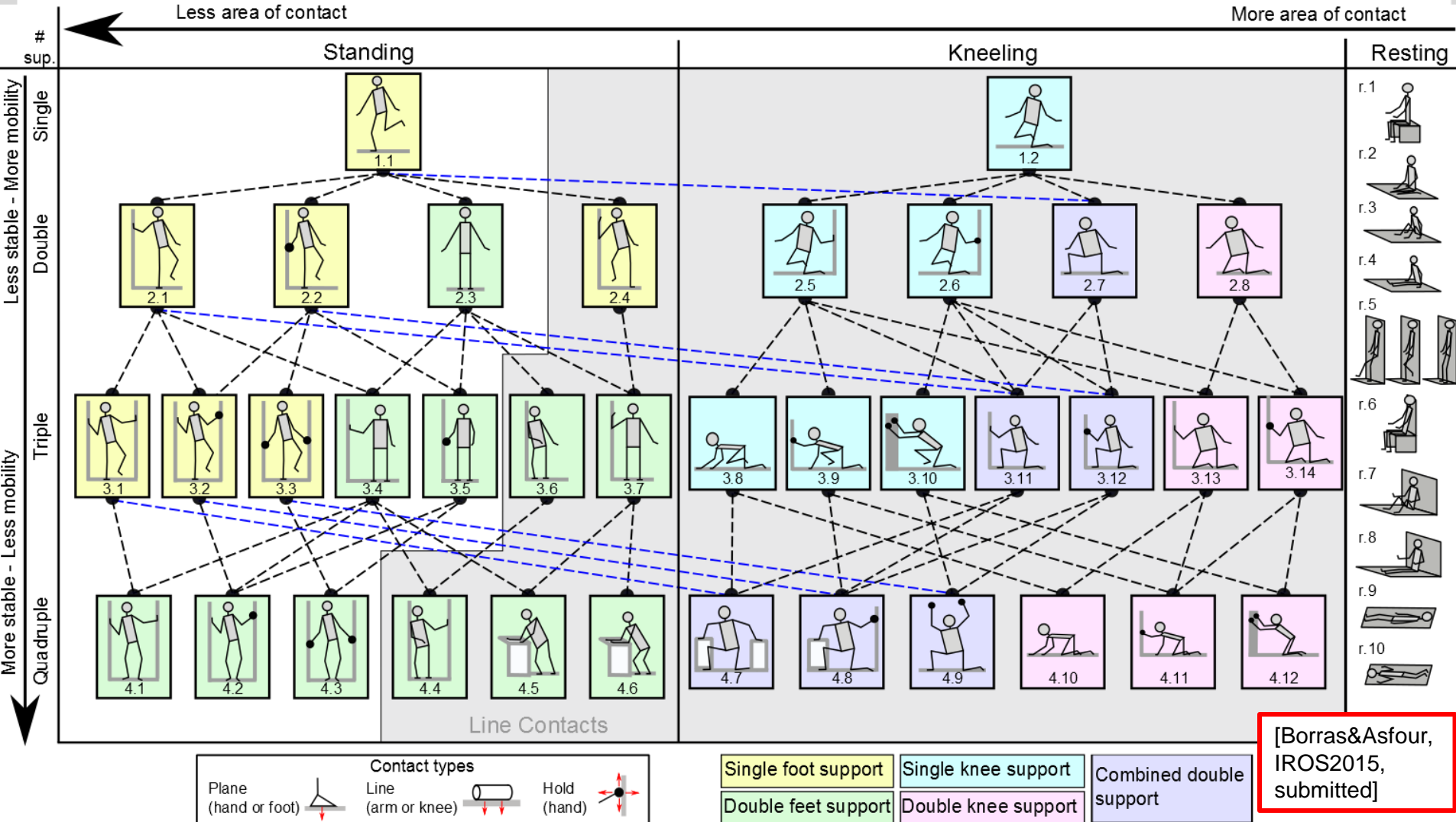
$$-\mathbf{G} \boldsymbol{\lambda}_f = \mathbf{W}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda}_f \in \mathcal{F}$$

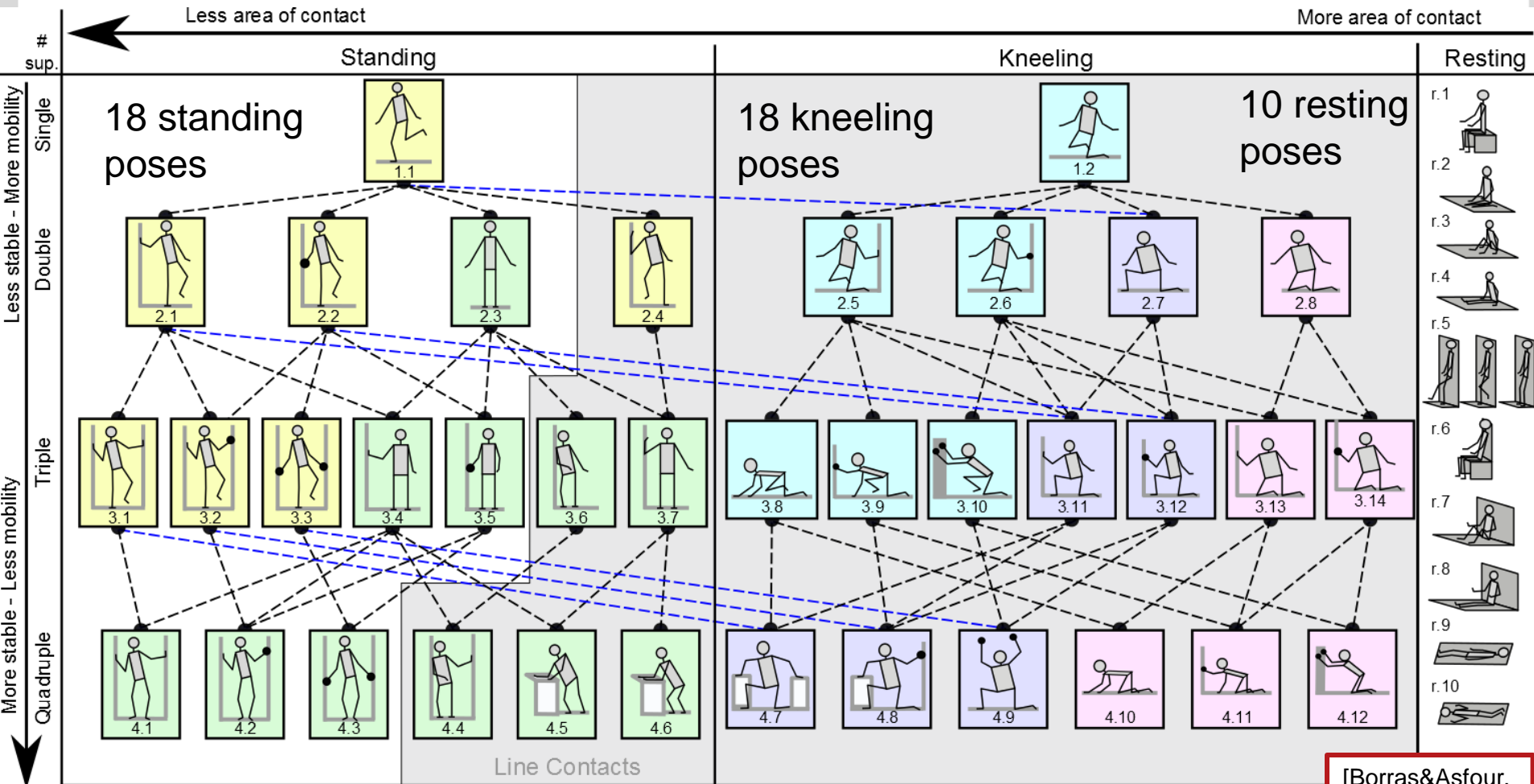
Balance  $\longleftrightarrow$  Stable grasp

Step planning  $\longleftrightarrow$  Grasp synthesis

# Taxonomy of whole-body poses for loco-manipulation tasks



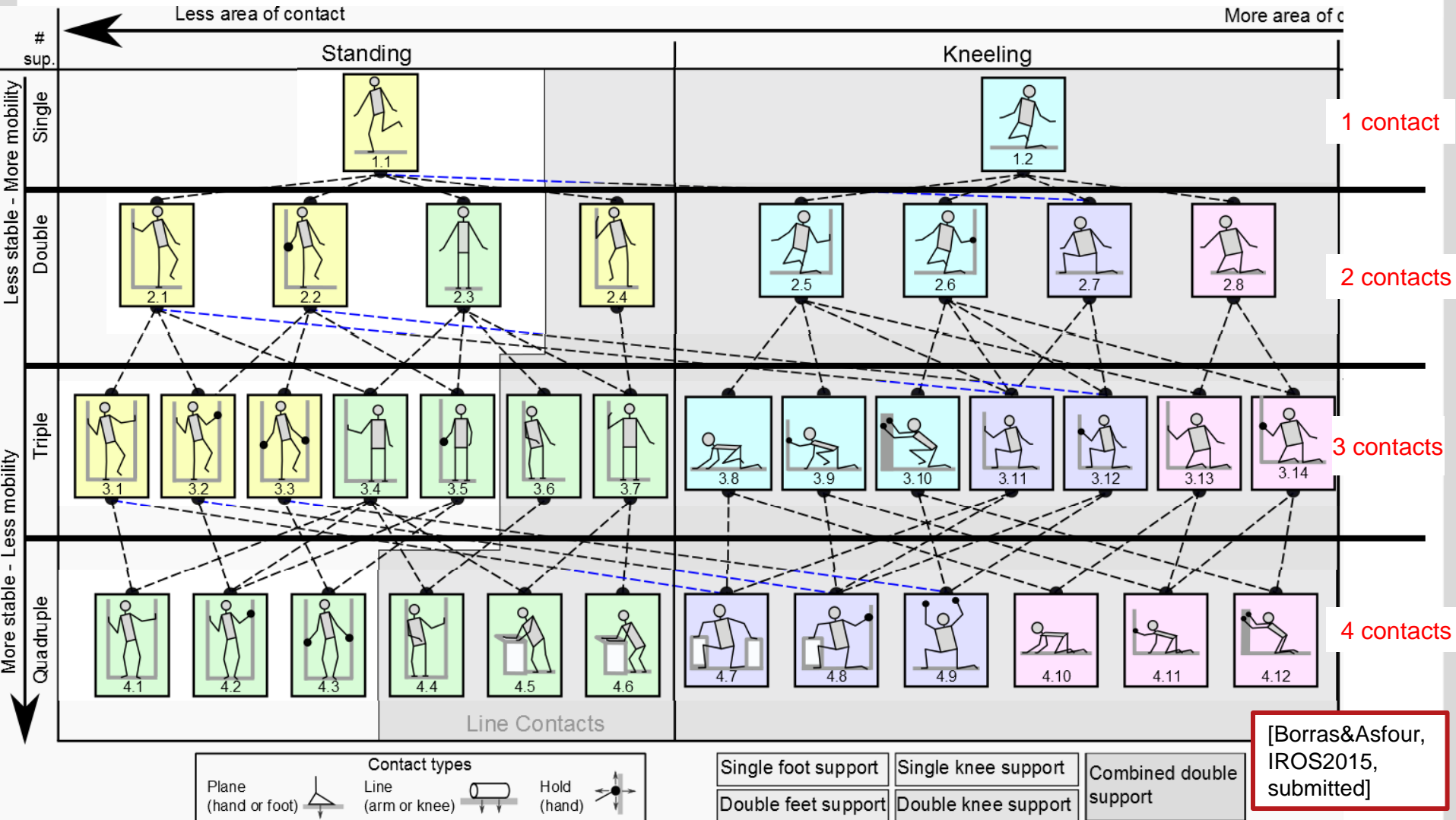
# Taxonomy of whole-body poses for loco-manipulation tasks



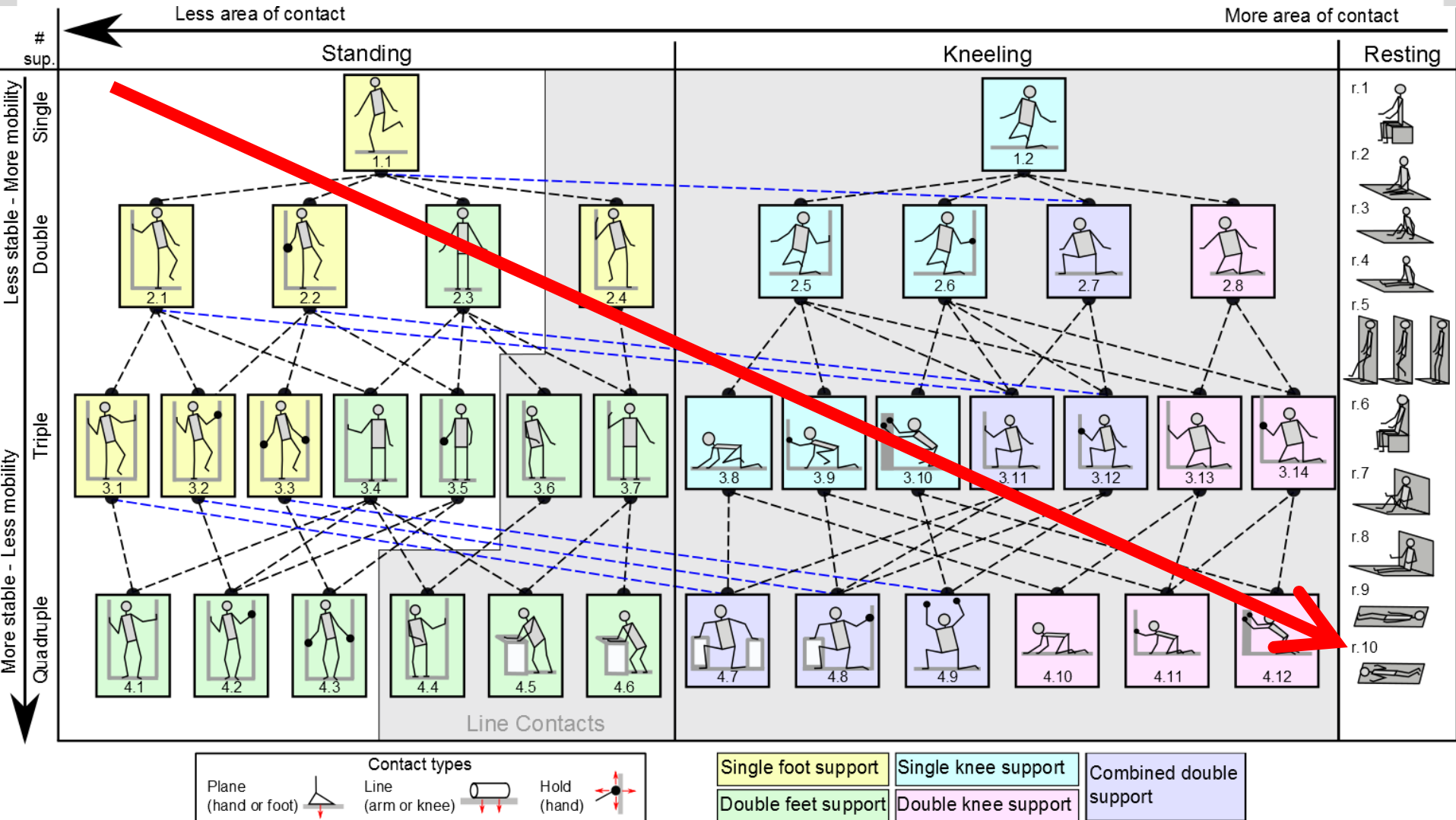
Total: 48 classes

[Borras&Asfour,  
IROS2015,  
submitted]

# Taxonomy of whole-body poses for loco-manipulation tasks



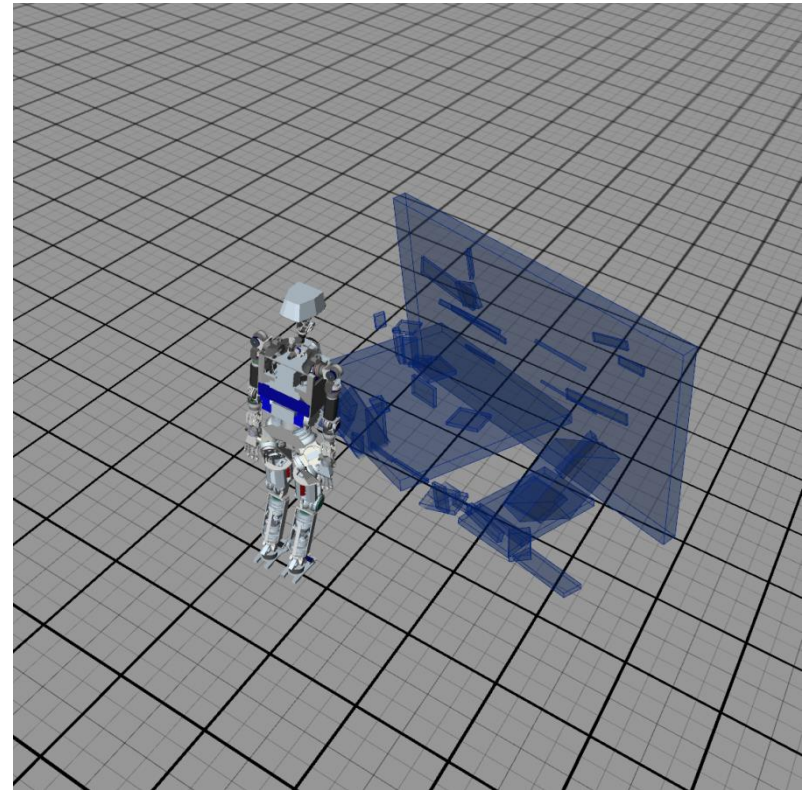
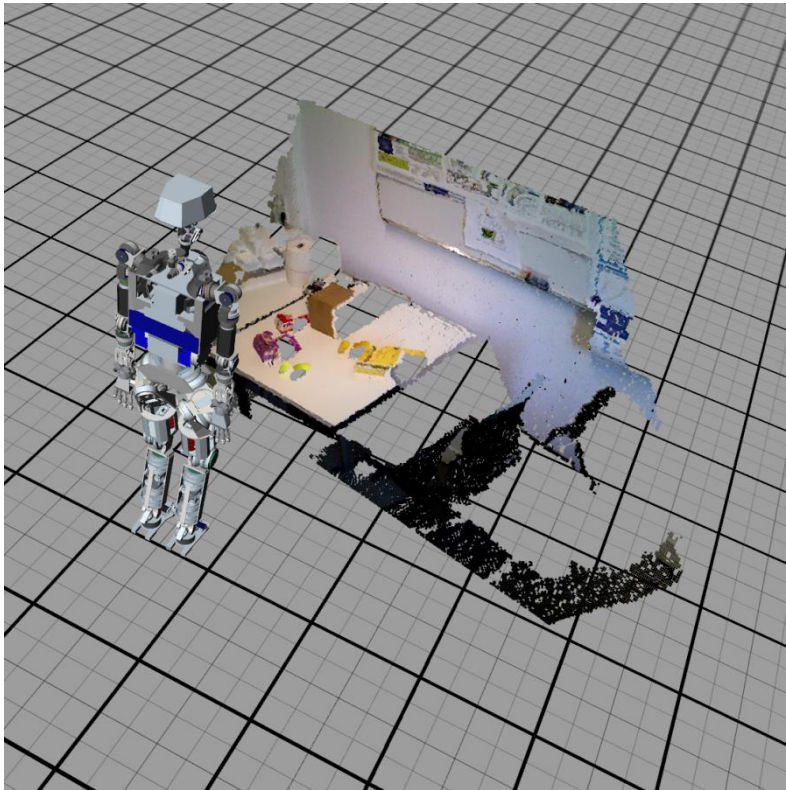
# Taxonomy of whole-body poses for loco-manipulation tasks





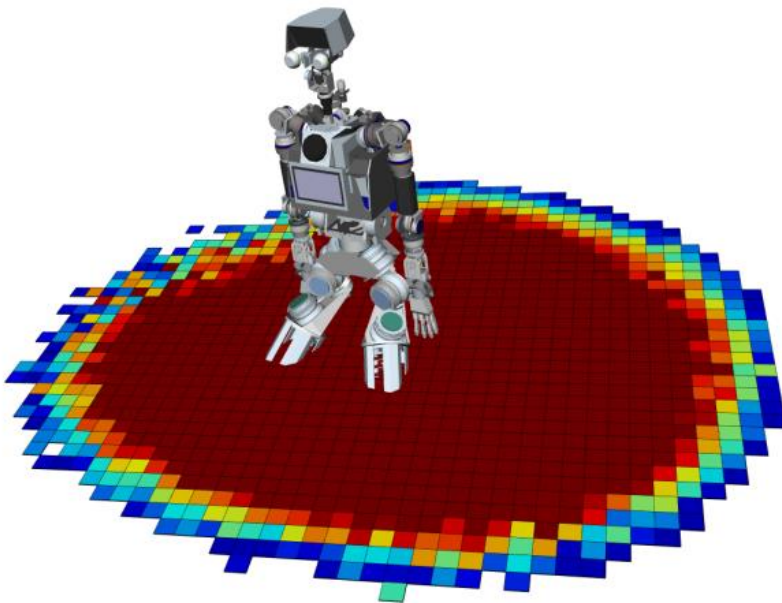
# Generation of whole-body „grasps“

## Detection of 3D primitives based on RGBD images

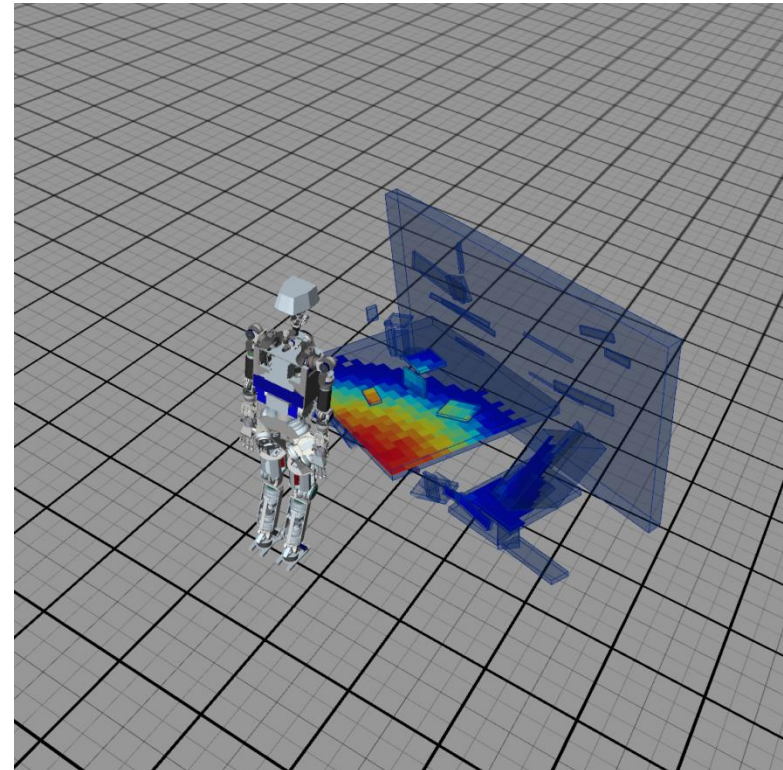


# „Reachable“ and „stable“ primitives

Exploit reachability and stability information to determine usable affordances



Cut through the Stability Distribution  
(leg, hip, and arm/hand)



Vahrenkamp and Asfour, Representing the Robot's Workspace through Constrained Manipulability Analysis, Autonomous Robots, 2014

# Assignment of affordances to 3D primitives

Rule-based affordance assignment based on the type of primitive and its parameters

Type of Primitive	Conditions/parameters	Affordance
Plane	Horizontal, Large enough, In reach	support
Plane	Vertical, Large enough, In reach	lean
Box	Large/small enough, In reach	grasp
Cylinder	Small radius, Short, In reach	grasp
Cylinder	Small radius, Long, In reach	hold



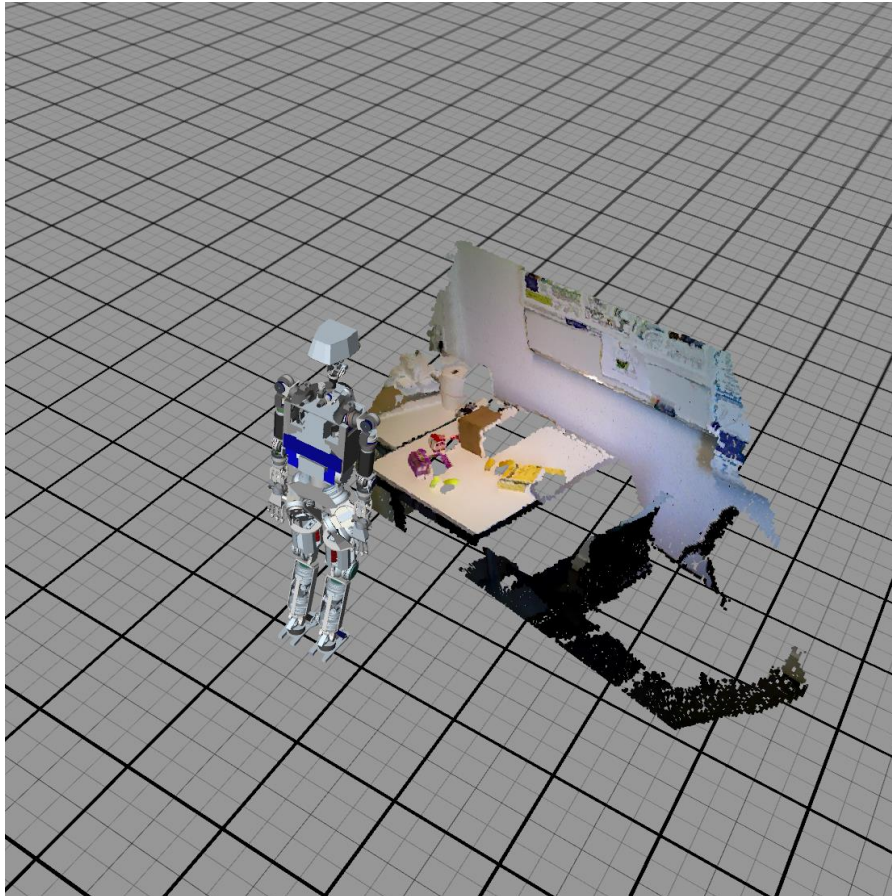
Implemented in the current examples



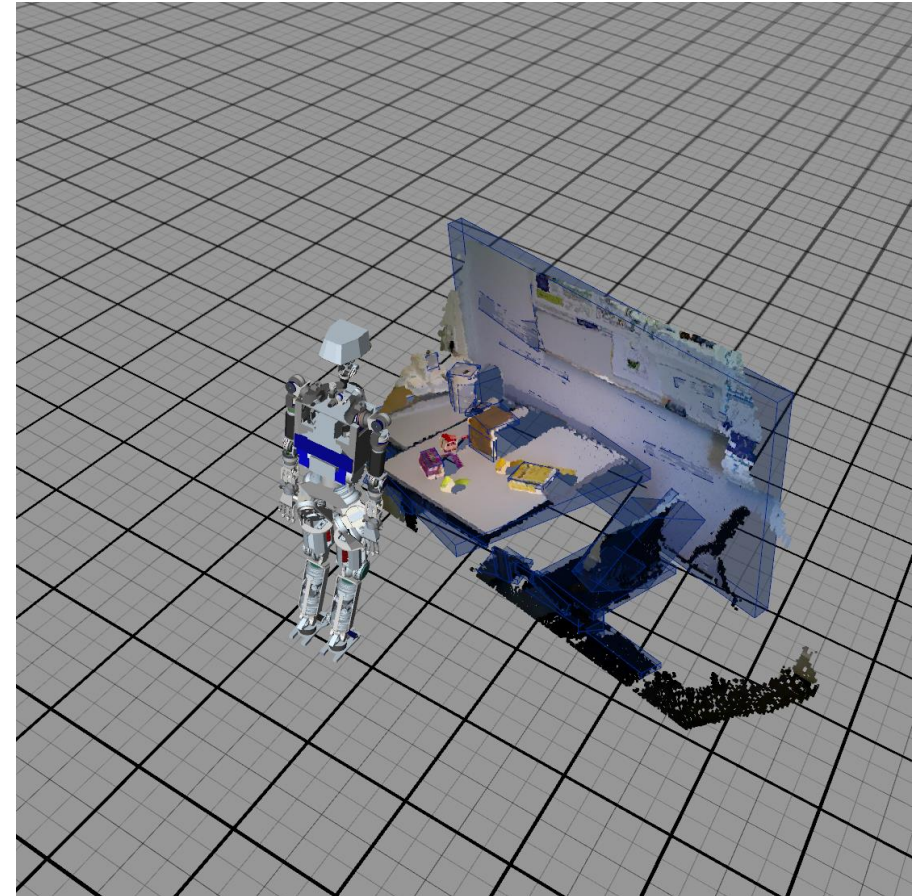
Future work



# From primitives to affordances

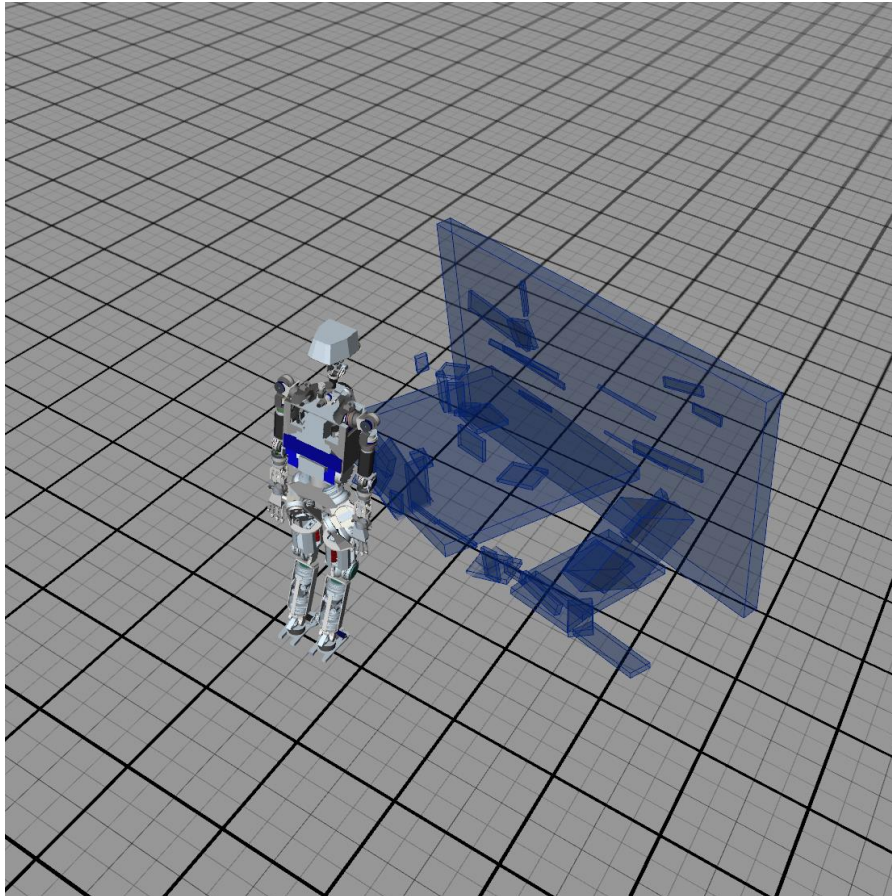


Raw point cloud data (Table in front of the robot, wall in the back, chair to the right)

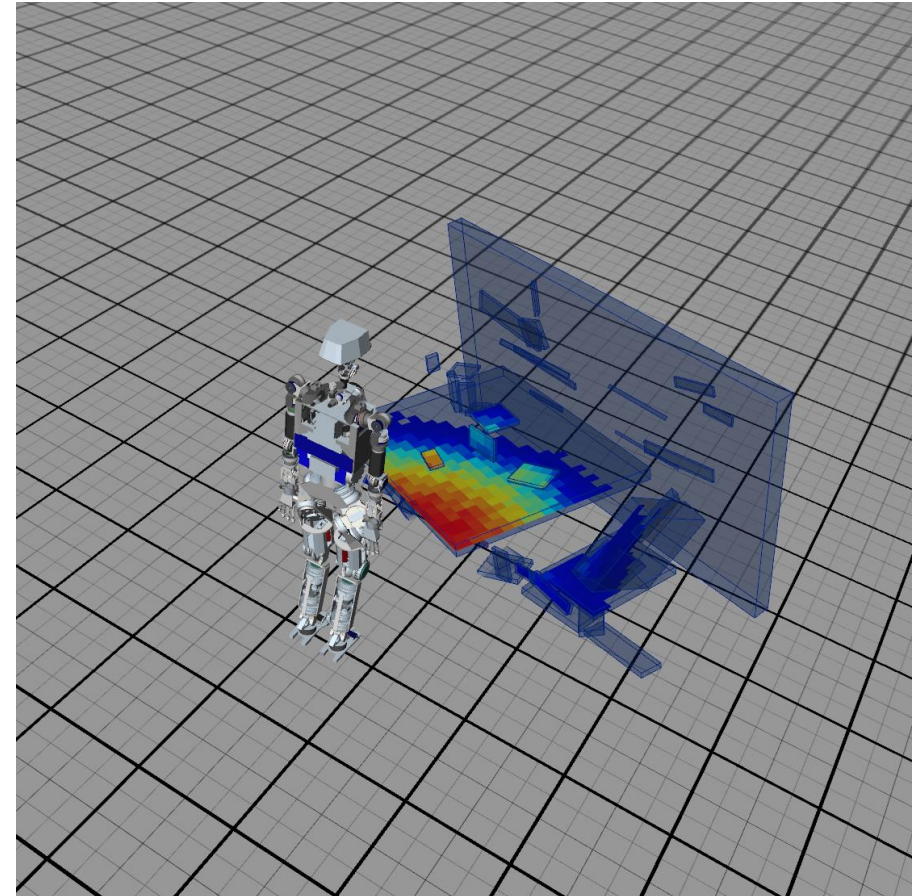


Extracted 3D shape primitives (polytopes)

# From primitives to affordances



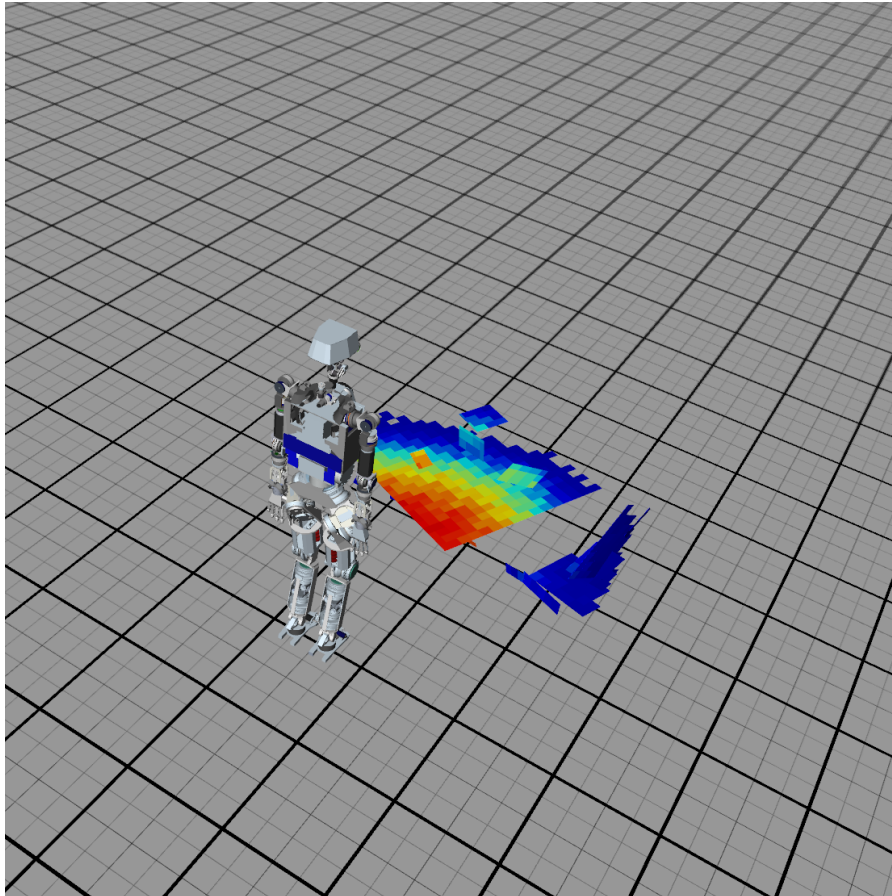
Extracted primitives without point cloud



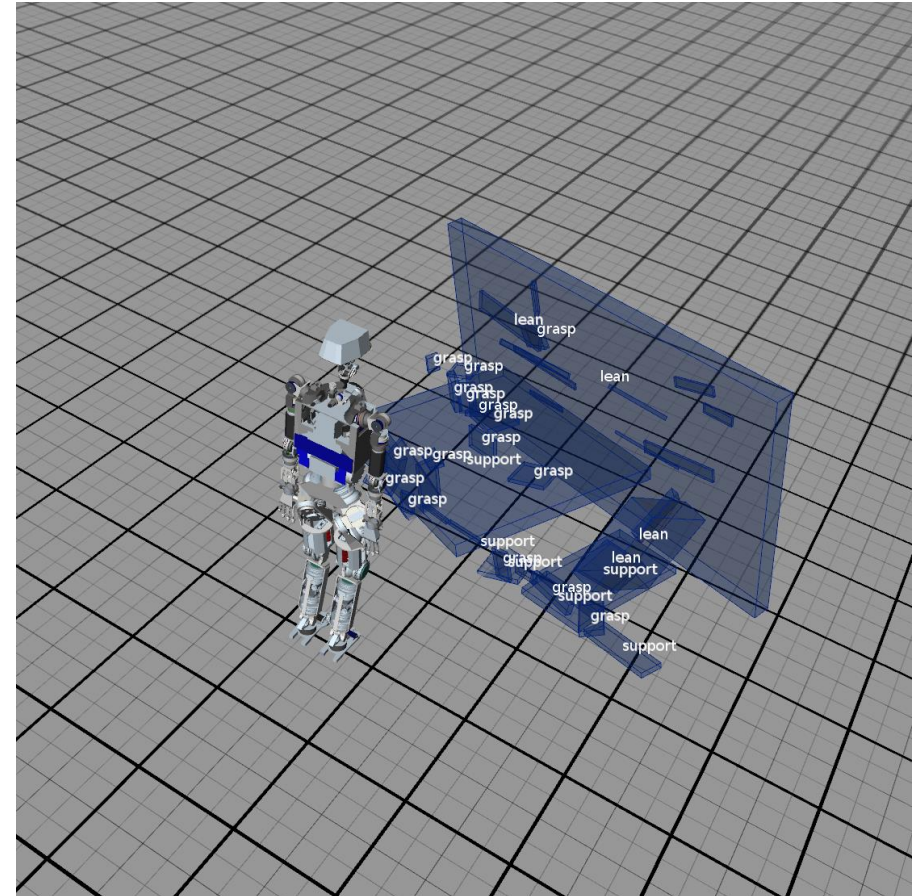
Extracted primitives together with reachability information (Based on reachability maps)



# From primitives to affordances

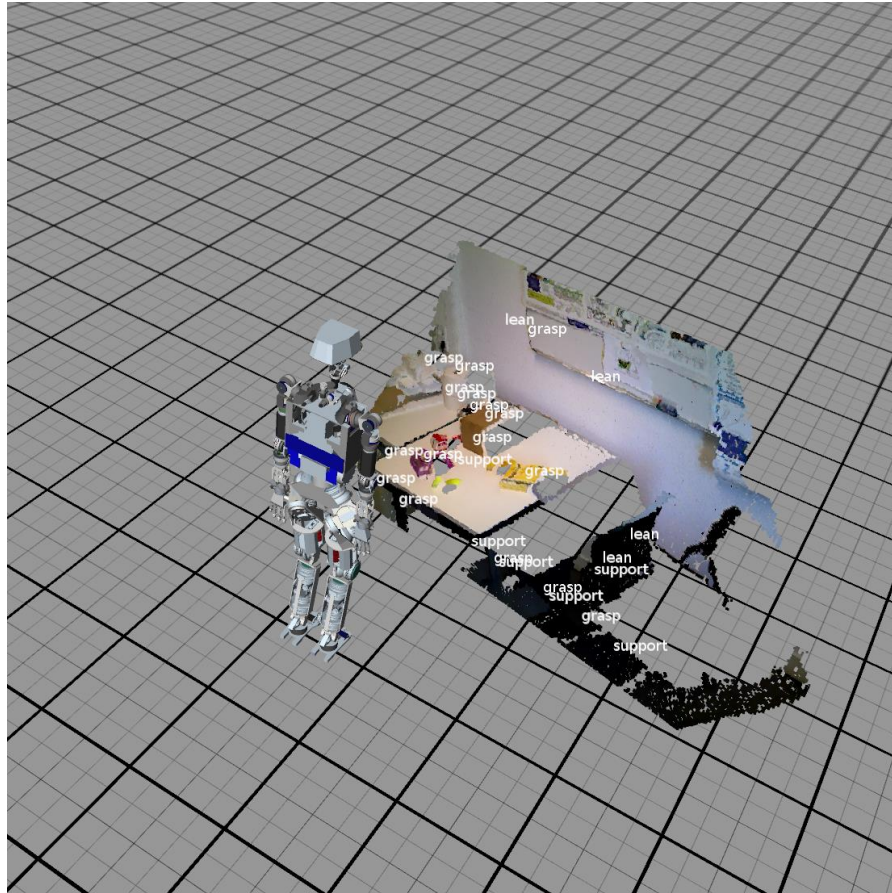


Only reachable surfaces without primitives

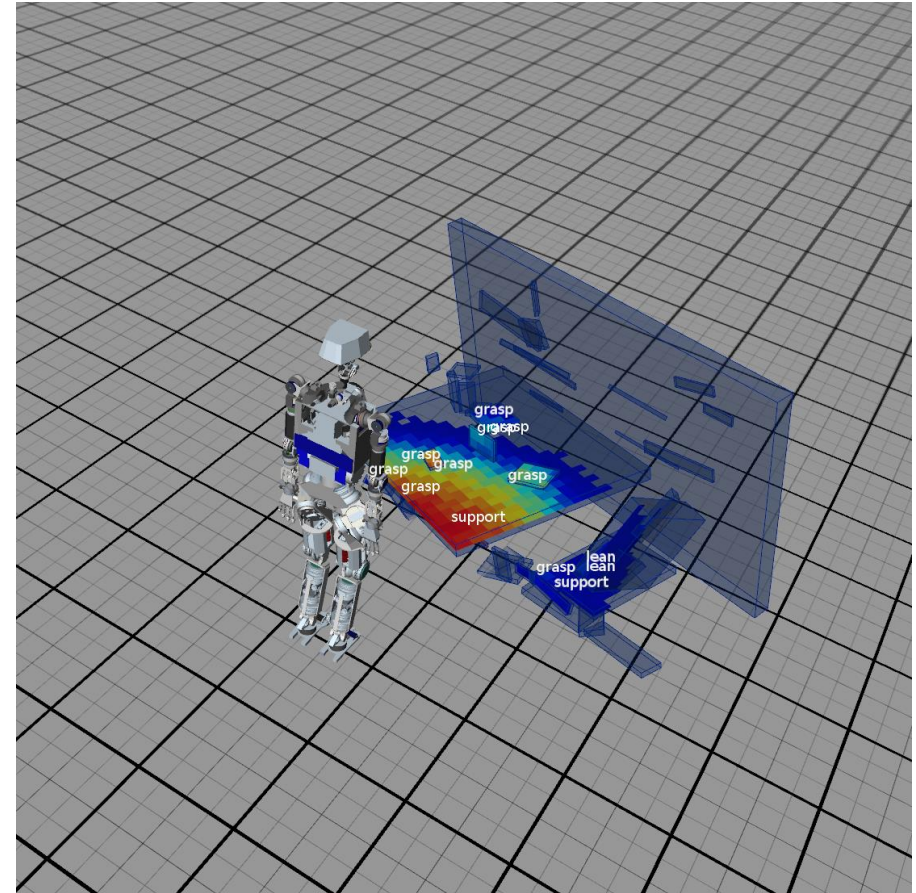


Affordances assigned based on rules

# From primitives to affordances



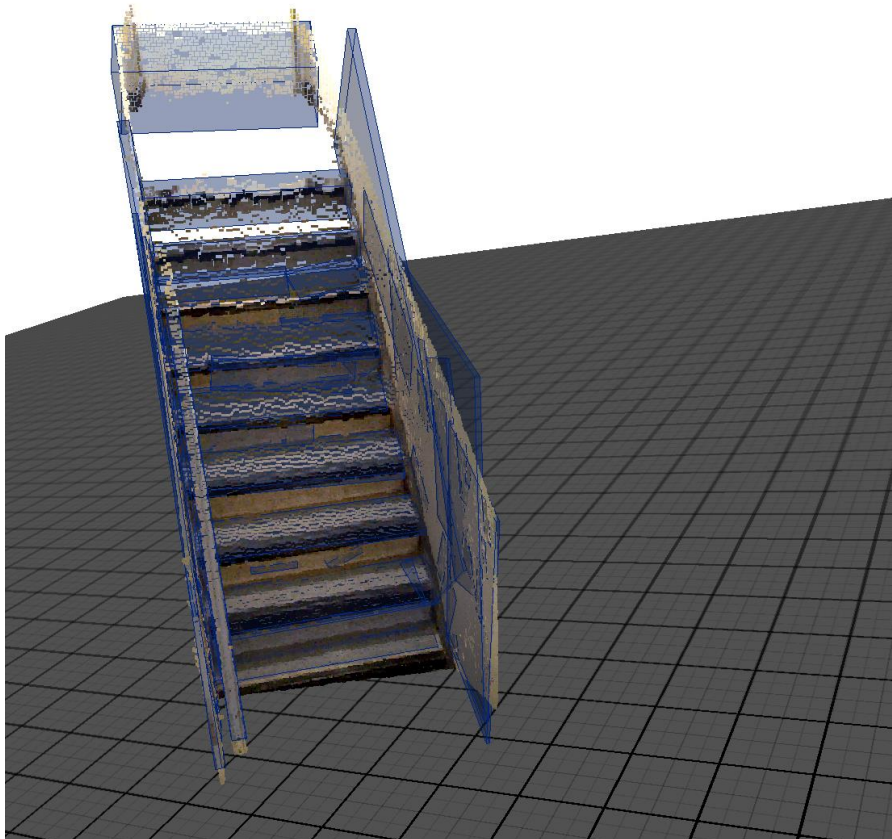
Assigned affordances in point cloud



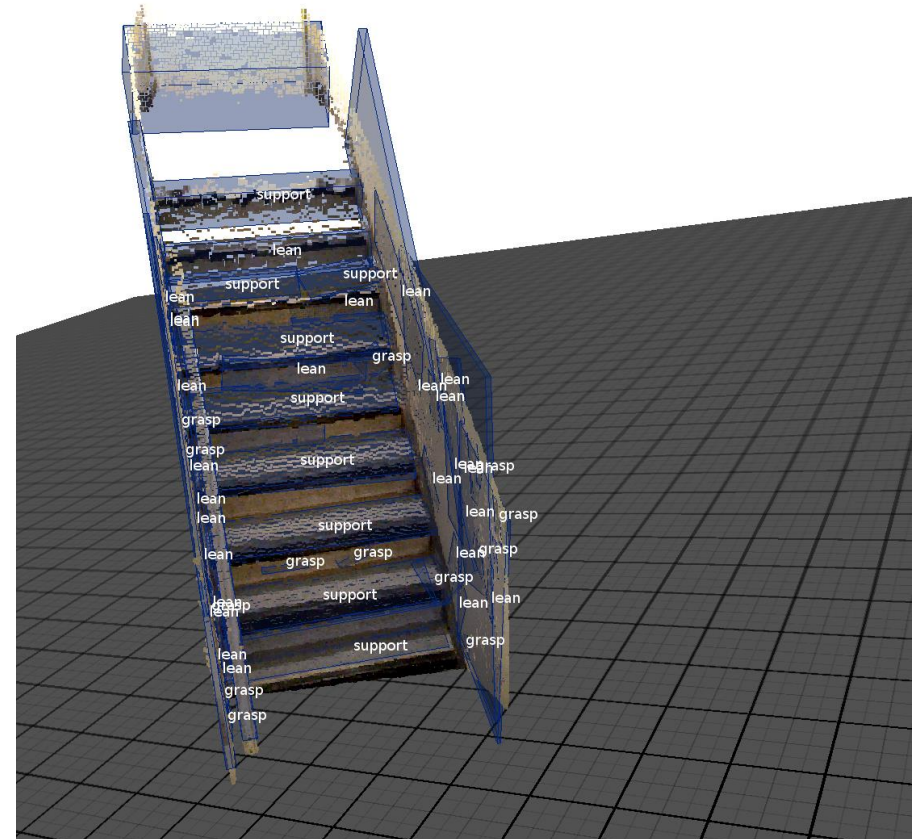
Only reachable affordances. The label is moved to the „reachability/stability hot spot“



# From primitives to affordances



Point cloud of a stairs together with extracted primitives



Assigned affordances for stairs (each step has a support affordance)

# ARMAR-V

- First step towards humanoid robots with **multiple functions** and for **multiple use**

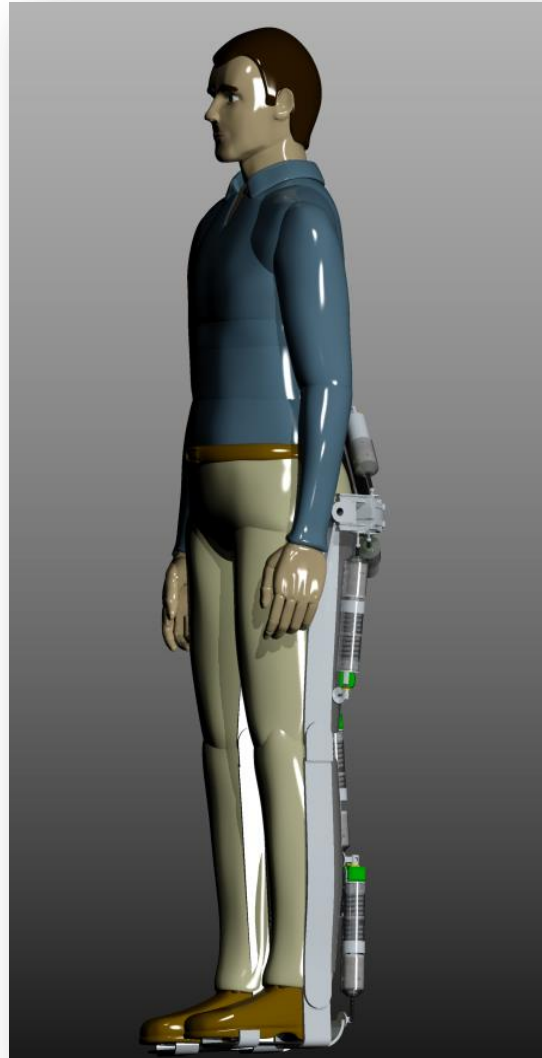
Helper, Assistant  
and Companion



Wearable Humanoid  
„Body Suit“



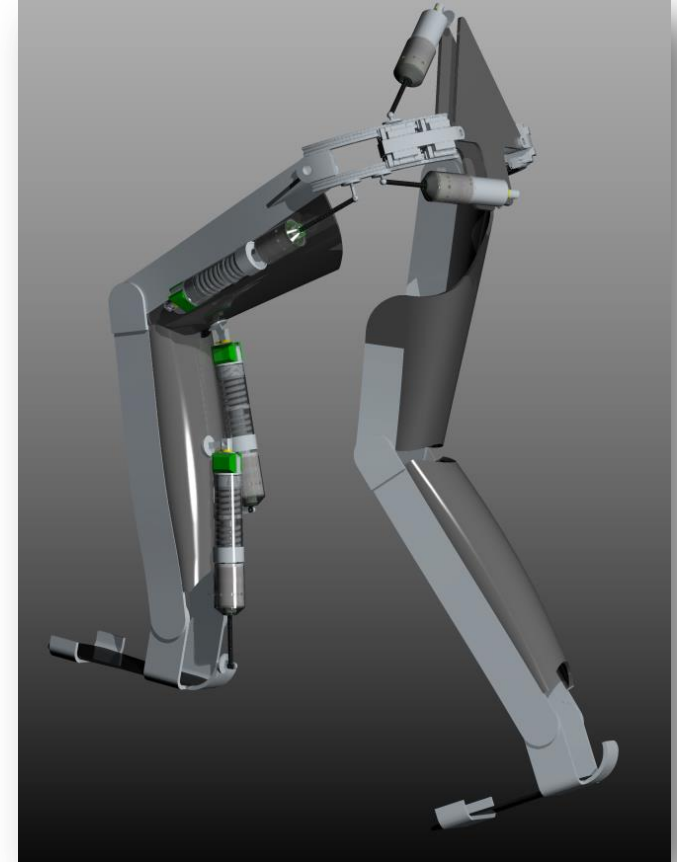
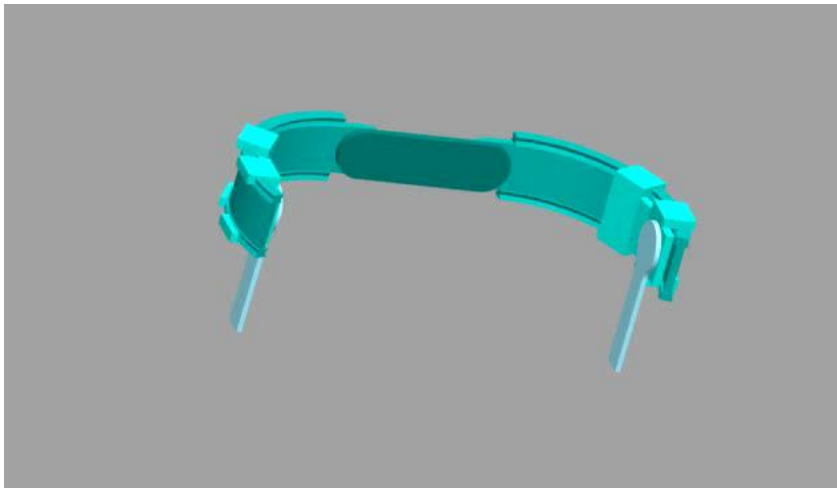
# ARMAR-V: Legs



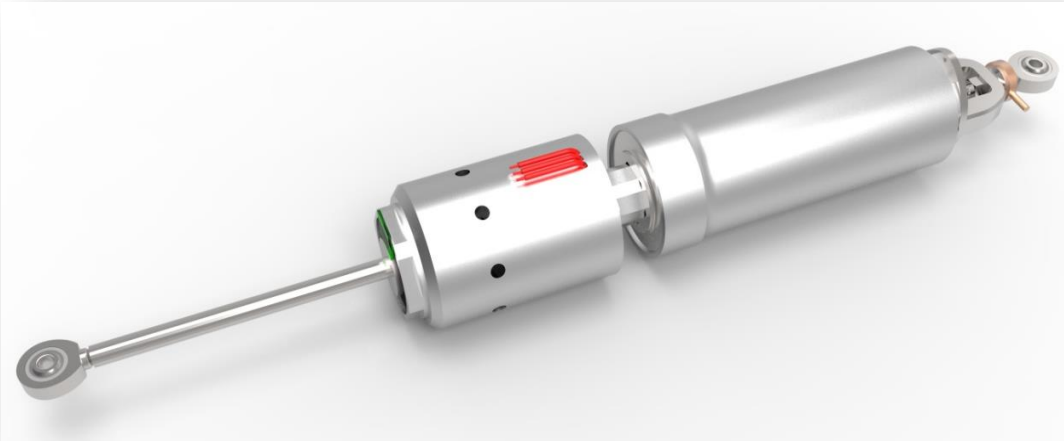


# ARMAR-V Legs

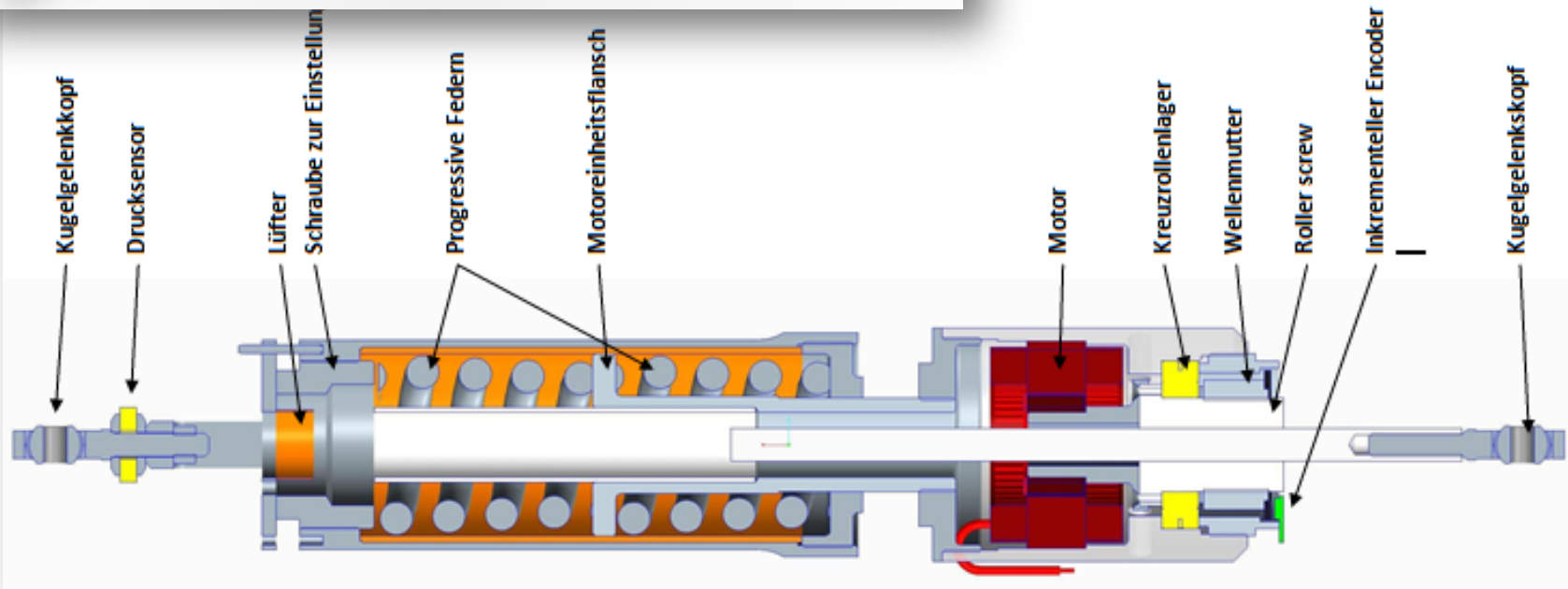
- 5 actuated DOFs in total in each leg
  - 3 DOFs in the hip
  - 1 DOF in the knee
  - 1 DOF in the ankle
- Serial elastic actuation in 3 pitch – DOFs
  - Adjustment of elasticity
- Joint peak torques  $\sim 120$  Nm



# ARMAR-V Legs – New Linear Elastic Actuators

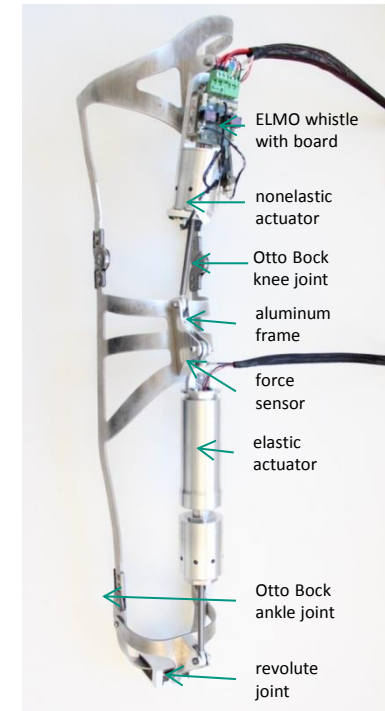
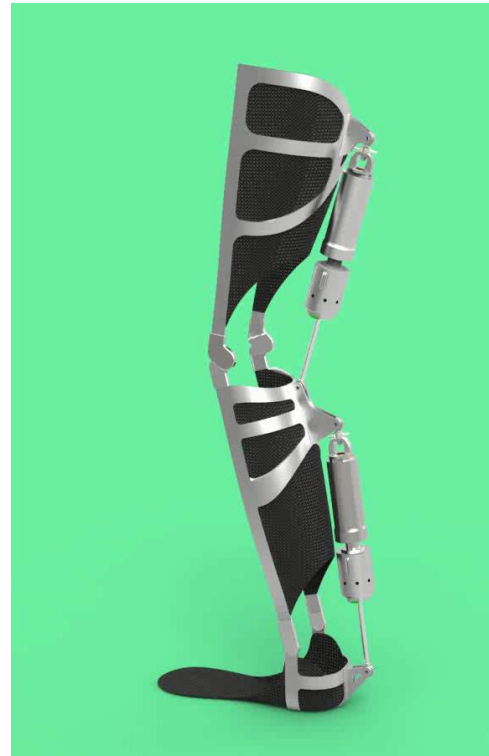


- Maximal axial force 2900 N
- Force at nominal motor torque 930 N
- Speed 300 mm/sec

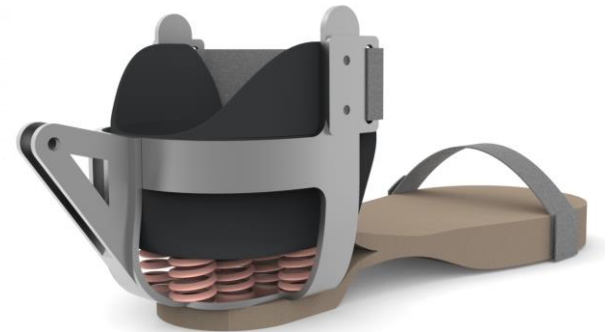
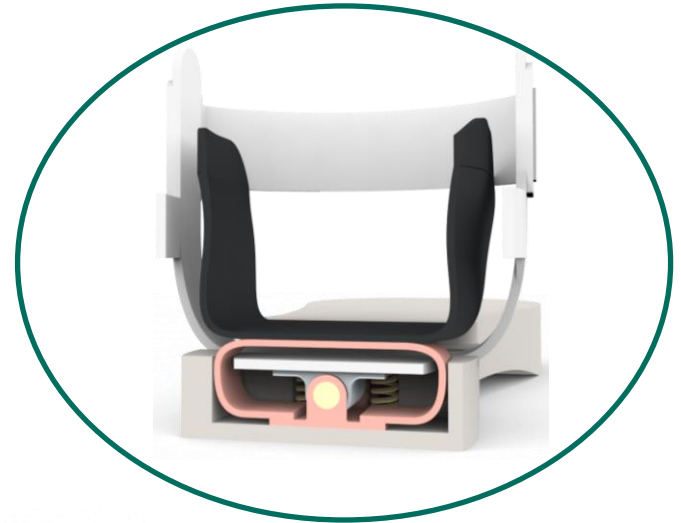
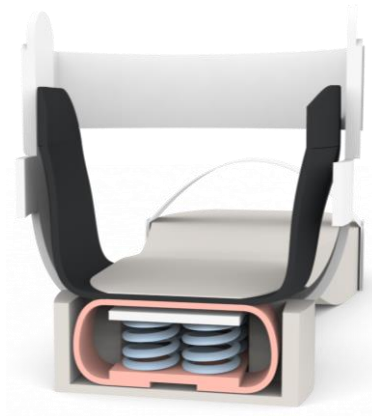


# First version – with two elastic actuators

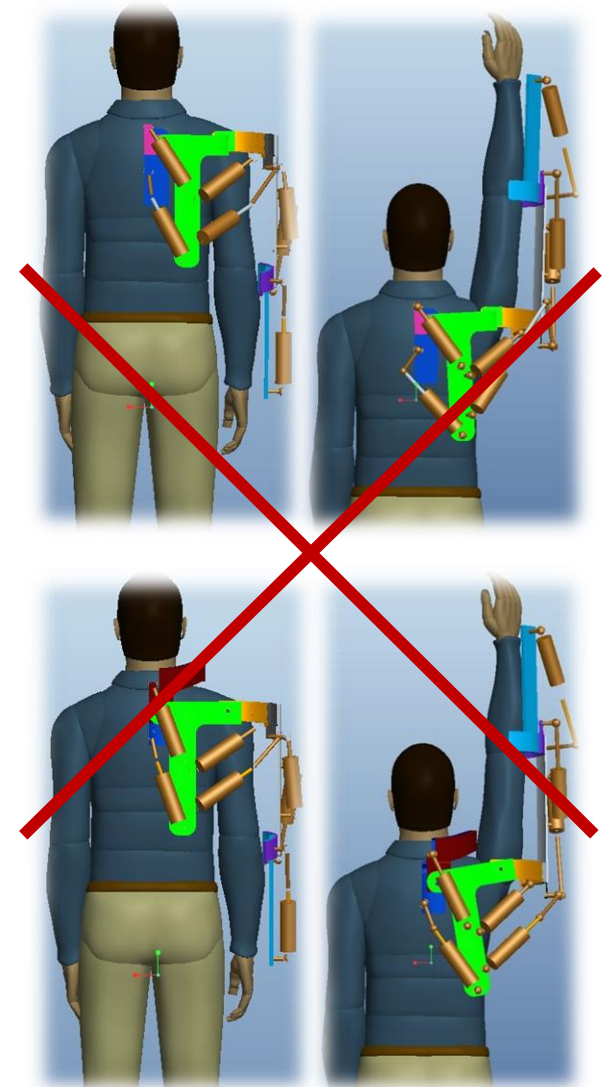
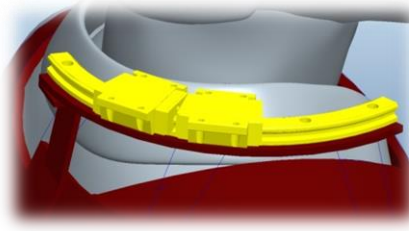
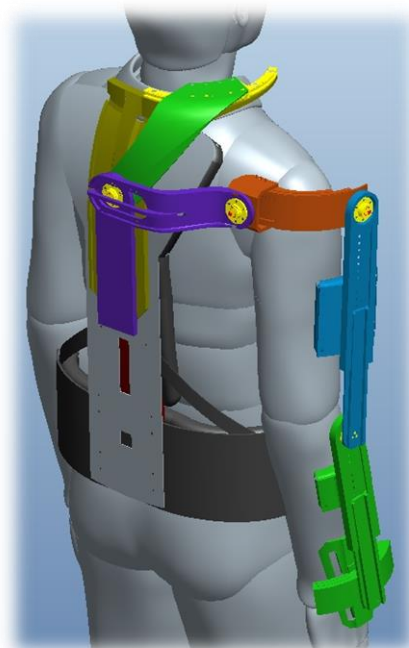
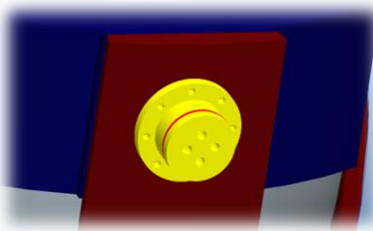
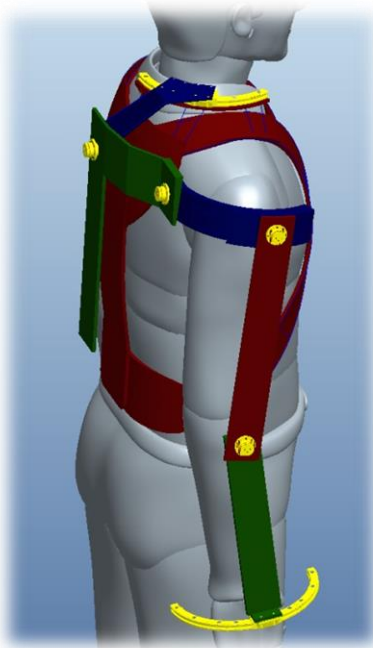
- Progressive springs integrated in the actuators for energy storage and reuse
- Serial-elastic type with 2 progressive springs
- Manually adjustable stiffness by increasing preload on springs



# Foot and ankle joint – concepts

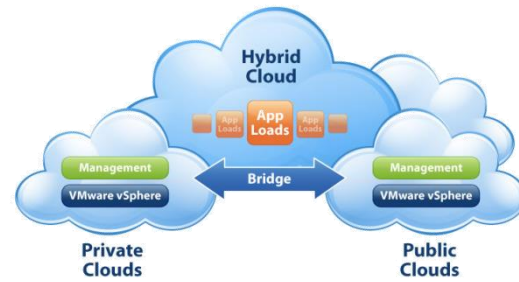
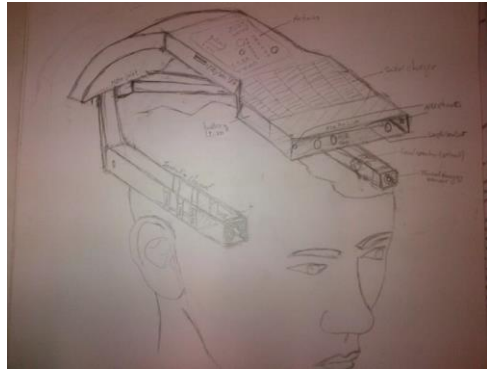


# ARMAR-V: Upper body

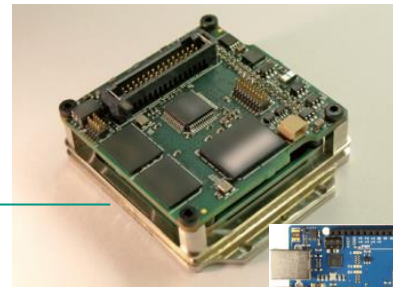




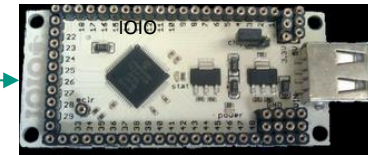
# ARMAR-V: Head/ smart Helmet



E-Nose



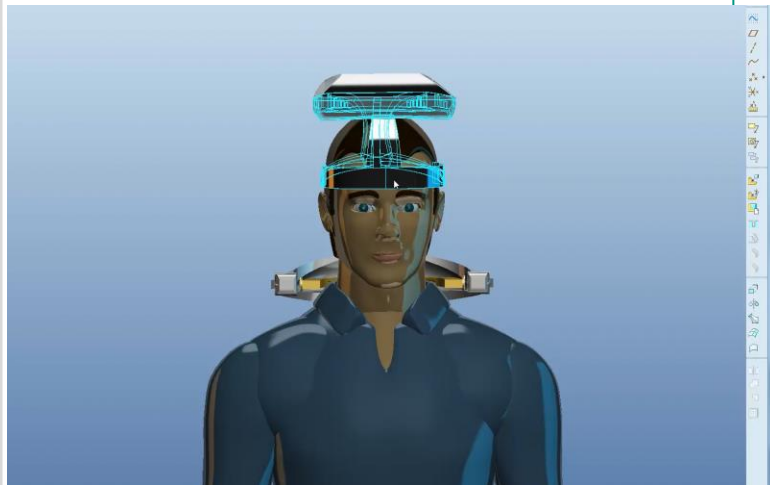
Vibration  
motors



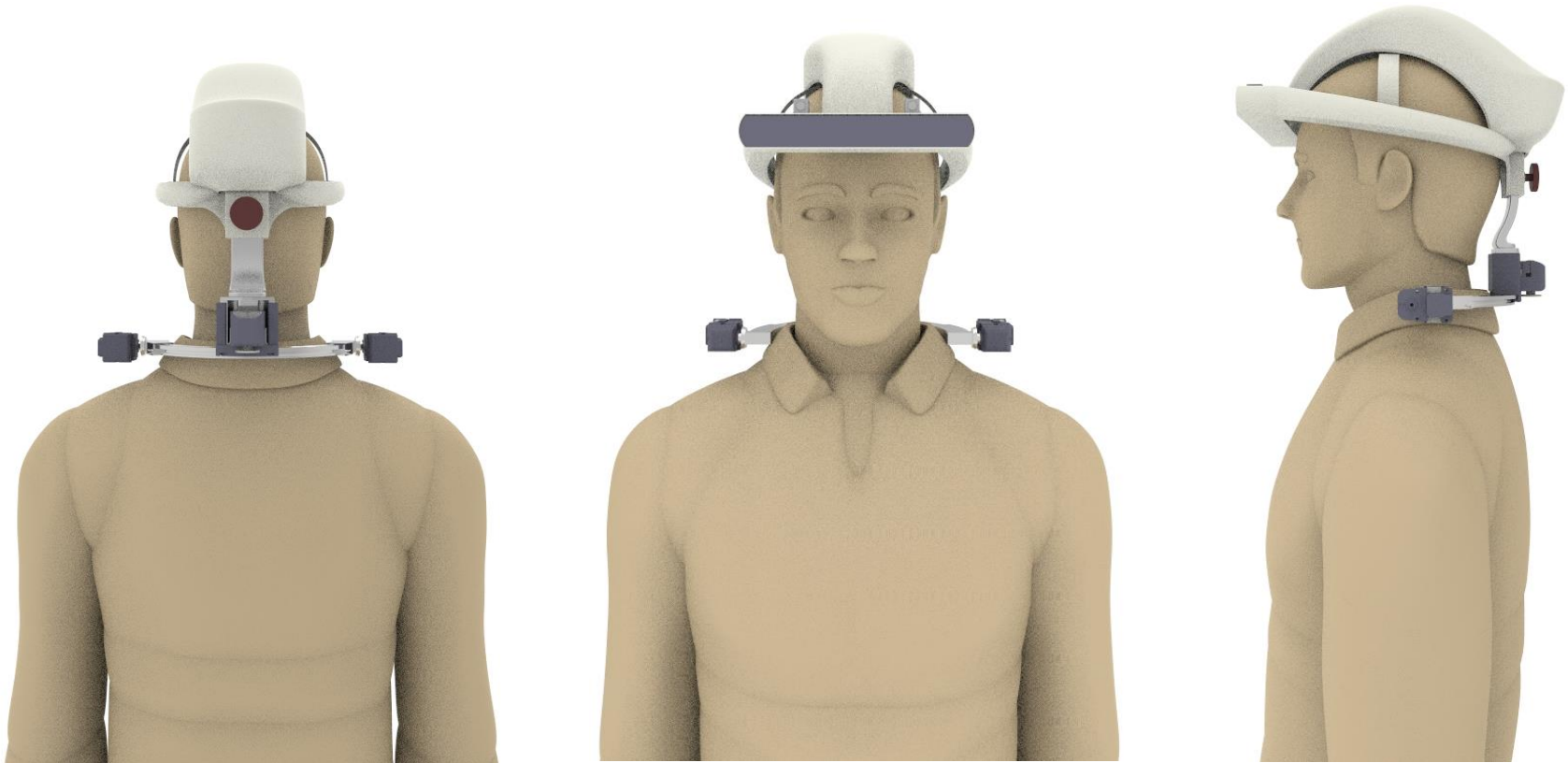
Solar charger



- Vision
- Audio
- Chemical
- Ultra low power thermal cameras
- Solar charger
- ...



# ARMAR-V: Head/ smart Helmet



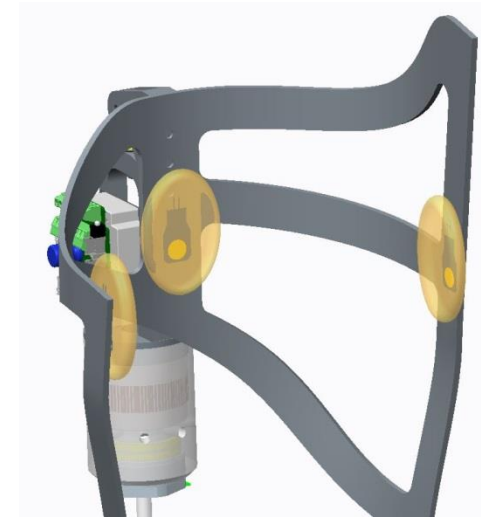
# Wearable Humanoid ARMAR-5



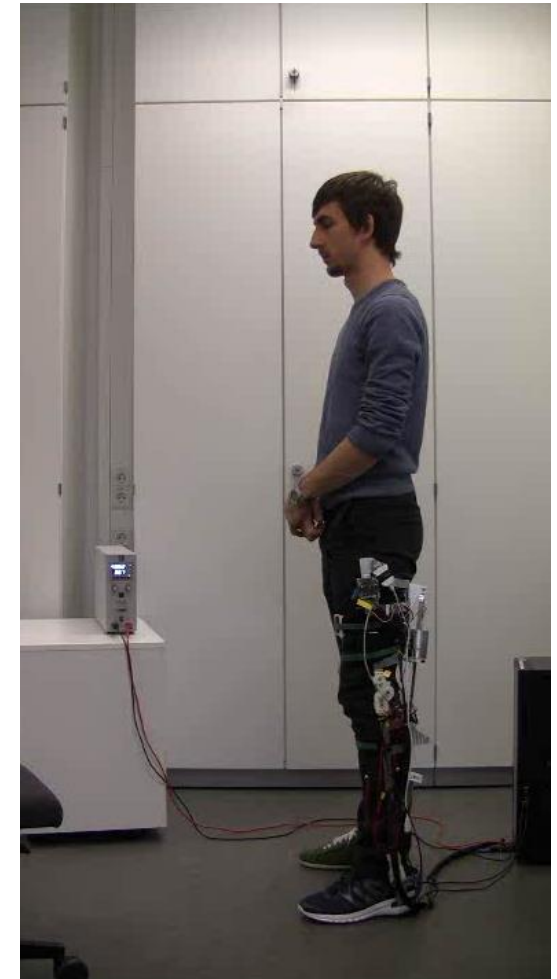
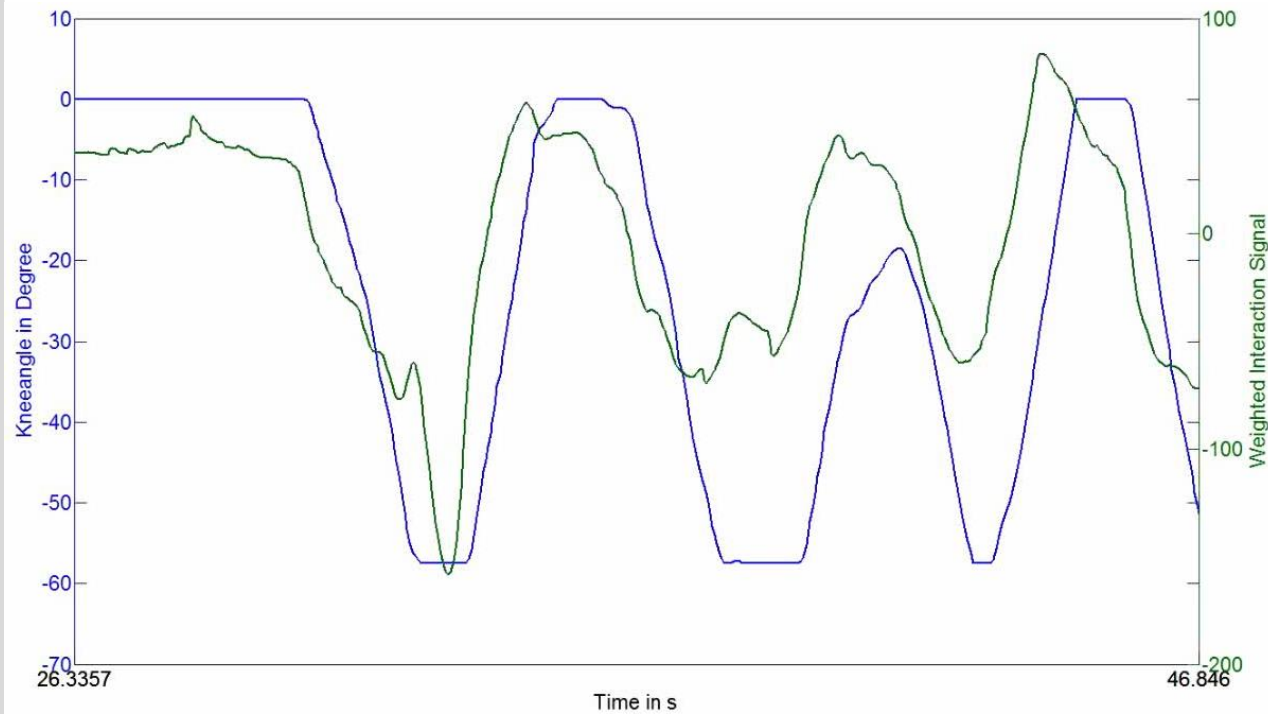
# ARMAR V: Interface to the human body

## ■ Force sensor suit

- Non-invasive, EMG-free Interface to the human body
- Learn interaction force pattern between human and suit and use them for prediction **“feel the muscle activation”**
- EMG unreliable
- EMG can only be used to train a classifier as well as to study correlations between EMG pattern and force pattern

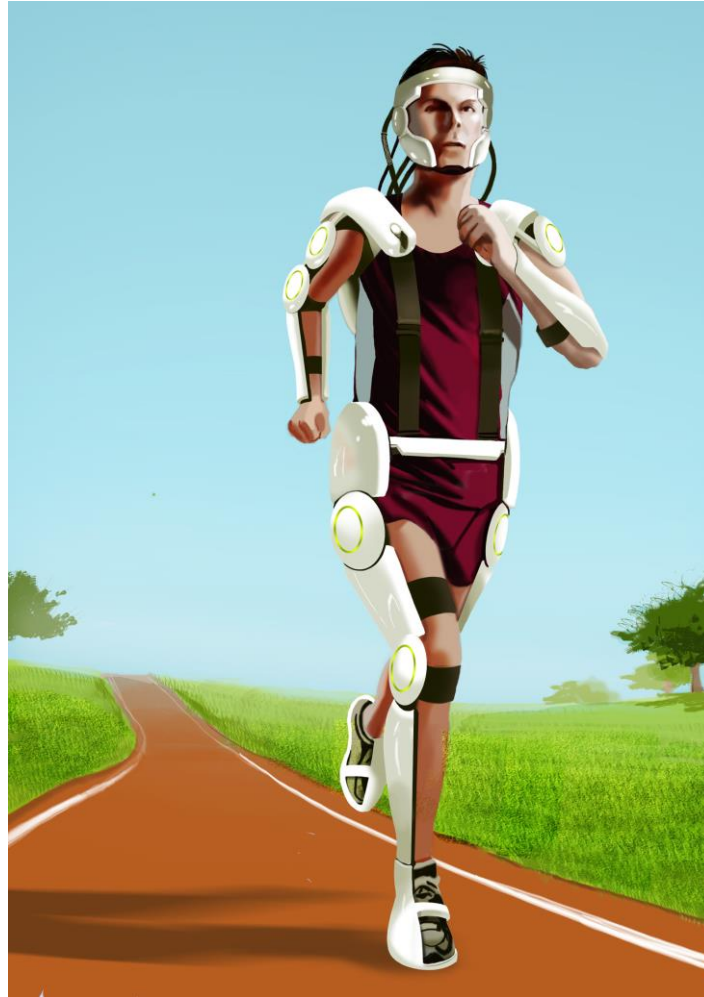


# Interaction force based control





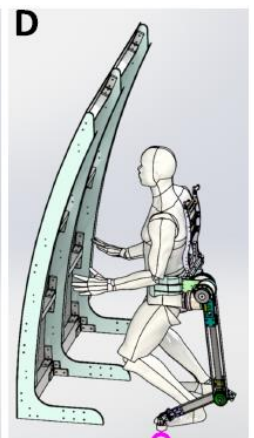
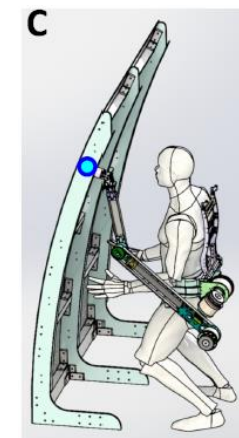
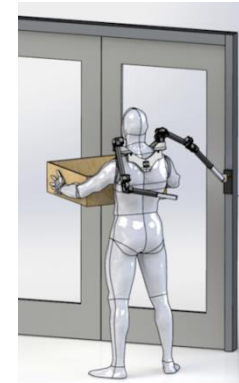
# Why wearable humanoid technologies?





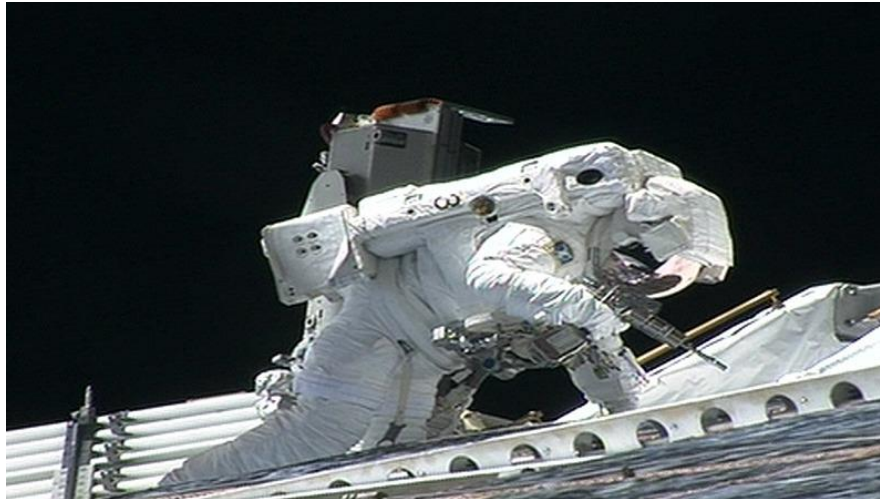
# Why wearable humanoid technologies?

- Augmentation of human capabilities in working environments



# Why wearable humanoid technologies?

- Augmentation and protection in disaster and working environments





# Why wearable humanoid technologies?

## ■ Rehabilitation and personalized therapy



**New humanoid-driven reform of the health system?**



# Why wearable humanoid technologies?

- Compensation of physical limitations  
“re-walk”



- “Goodby Wheelchairs”

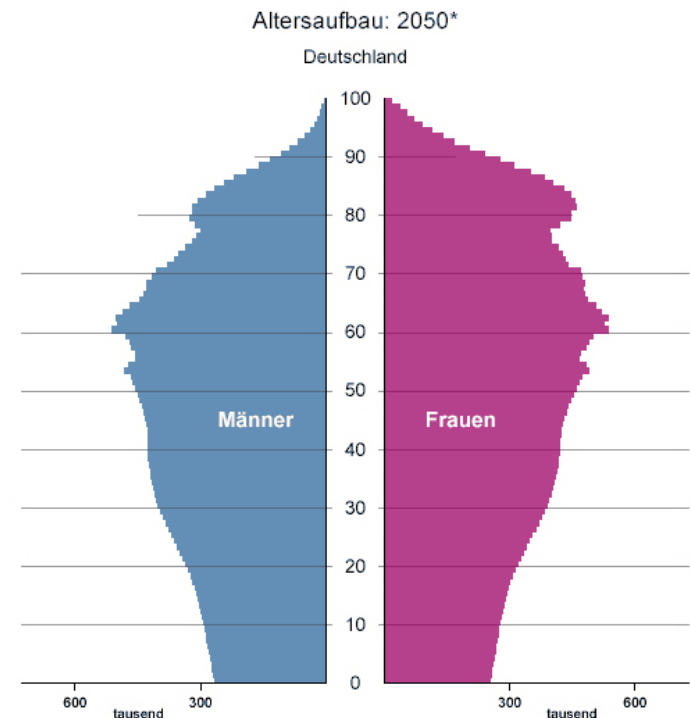


## Some Statistics

- 65 Mio people worldwide in wheelchairs
- 1,1 million people experience a stroke in Europe and 0,5 million in US
- Stroke has been identified by the World Health Organization in 2008 as one of the five main chronic diseases and its incidence is amplified by ageing
- In 40 years, nearly 35% of the European population will be older than 60

**Rehab robots, smart prostheses and exoskeletons will grow from \$43.3 million to reach \$1.8 billion by 2020**

**Higher numbers of surgical operations of the musculoskeletal system**





# Why wearable humanoid technologies?

- Augmentation of human capabilities



Foldable actuator-sensor units → Multifunctional nanomaterials and new fabrication technologies for human-robot symbiosis

# Transformative Impact of Wearable Humanoids



# Transformative Impact of Wearable Humanoids



# Thanks to ...

## ■ German Research Foundation (DFG)

- SFB 588 [www.sfb588.uni-karlsruhe.de](http://www.sfb588.uni-karlsruhe.de) (2001 - 2012)
- SPP 1527 [autonomous-learning.org](http://autonomous-learning.org) (2010 - )
- SFB/TR 89 [www.invasic.de](http://www.invasic.de) (2009 - )



## ■ European Commission

- Xperience [www.xperience.org](http://www.xperience.org) (2012-2015)
- Walk-Man [www.walk-man.eu](http://www.walk-man.eu) (2013-2017)
- Koroibot [www.koroibot.eu](http://www.koroibot.eu) (2013-2016)
- GRASP [www.grasp-project.eu](http://www.grasp-project.eu) (2008-2012)
- PACO-PLUS [www.paco-plus.org](http://www.paco-plus.org) (2006-2011)
- **New: TimeStorm, SecondHands and I-Support**



## ■ Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT)

- Professorship "Humanoid Robotic Systems"
- Heidelberg-Karlsruhe Research Partnership (HEiKA)



Thanks for your attention

