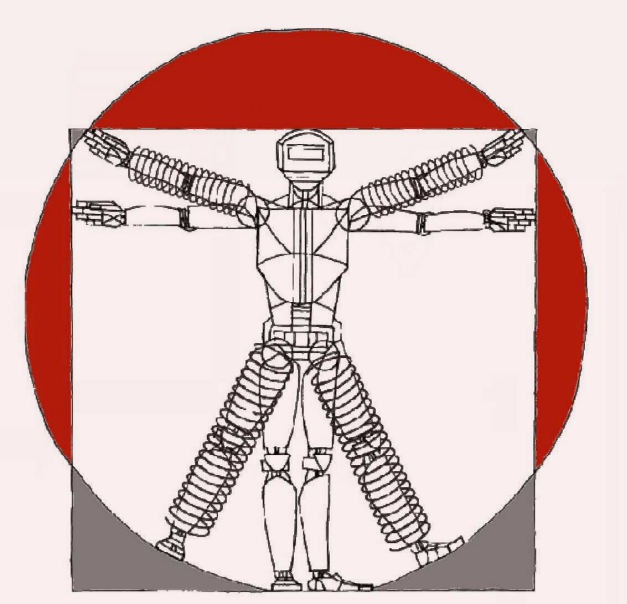


# VIACTORS



## Variable Impedance ACTuation systems embodying advanced interaction behaviORS

Alin Albu-Schaeffer,  
Patrick Van der Smagt

Antonio Bicchi,  
Alessandra Parravicini

Stefano Stramigioli  
Vrije Universiteit Brussel  
Belgium

Etienne Burdet  
Imperial College  
London, UK

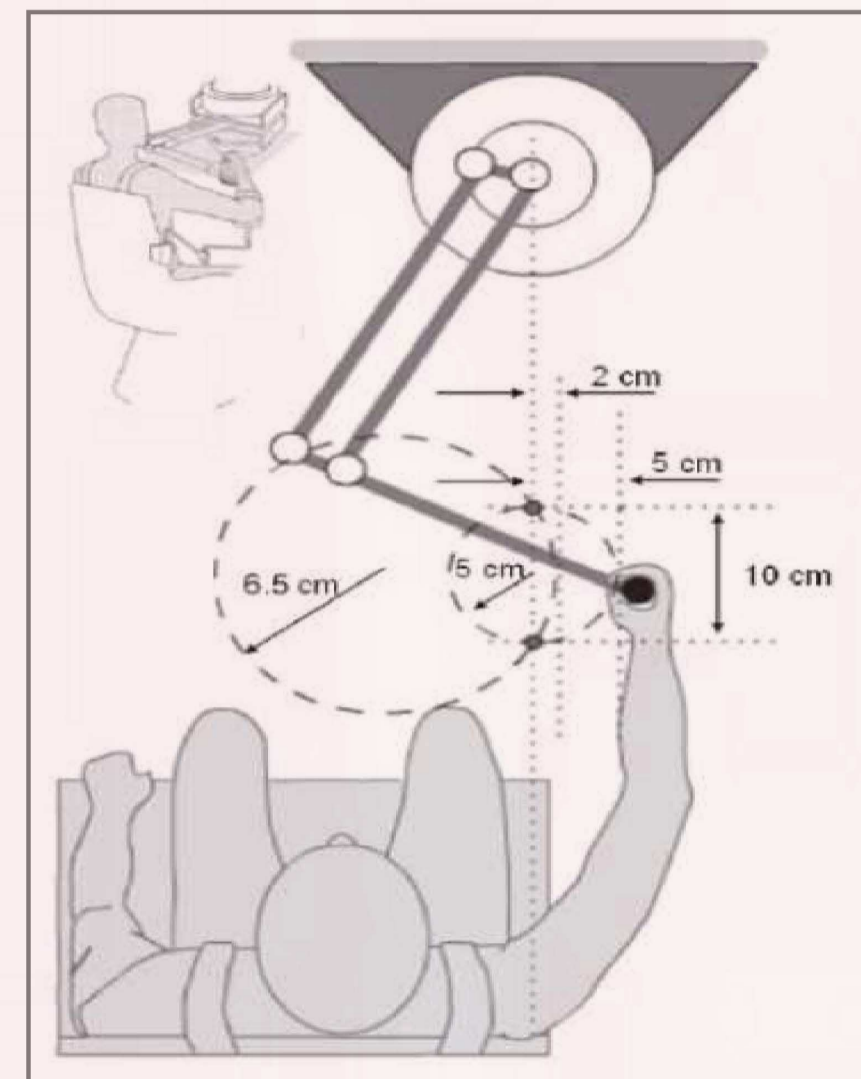
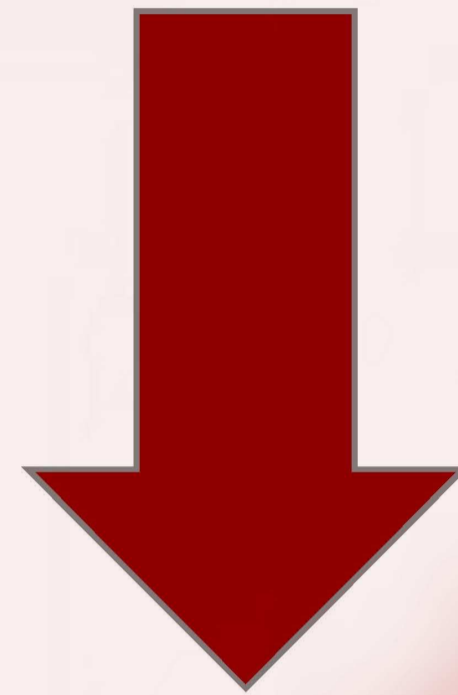
Dirk Lefeber  
University of  
Twente,  
The Netherlands

Nikos Tsagarakis  
Italian Institute of  
Technology, Italy

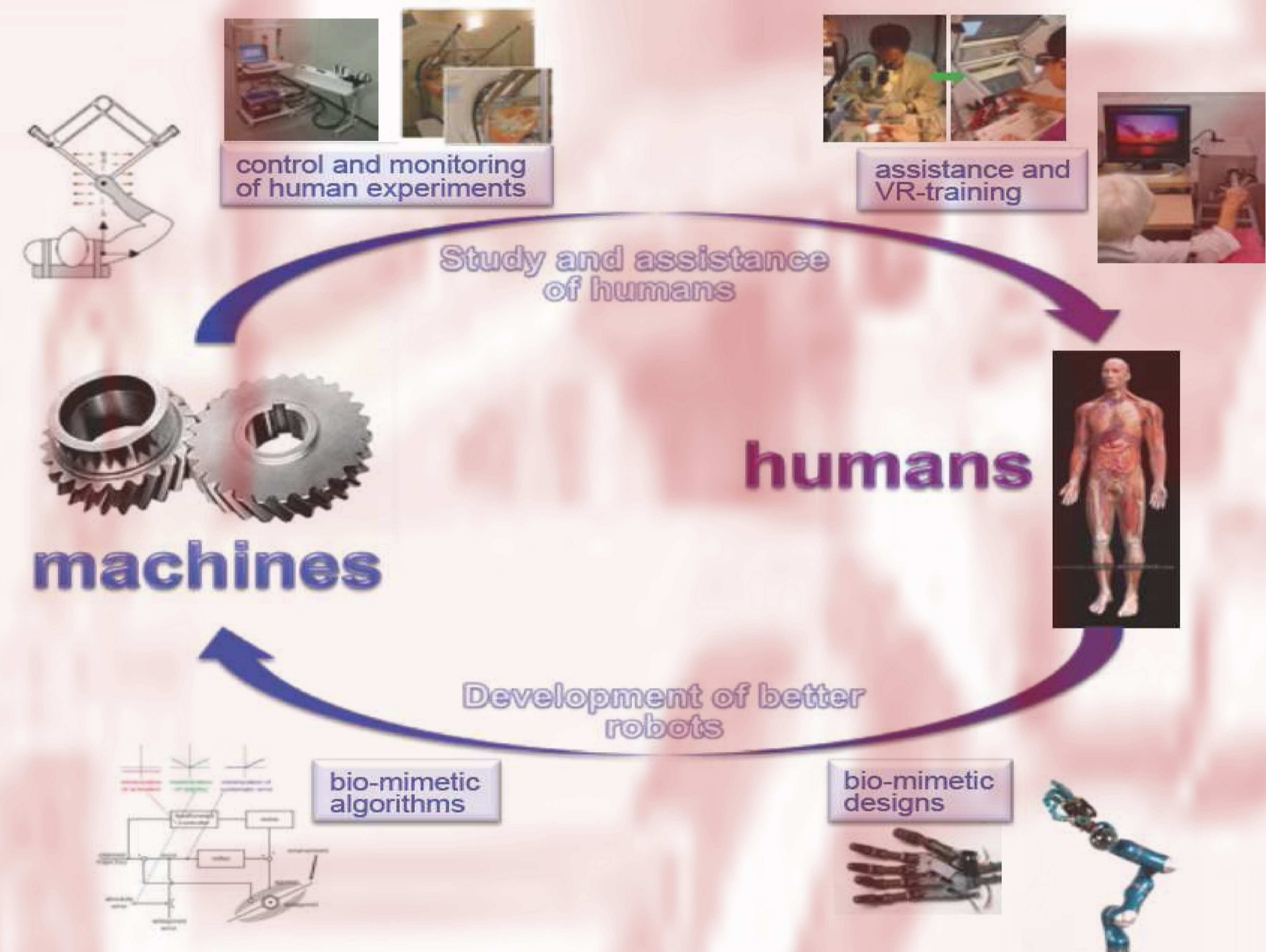
DLR/Institute of Robotics and  
Mechatronics,  
Germany

Interdepartmental Research  
Center "E.Piaggio"-  
University of Pisa, Italy

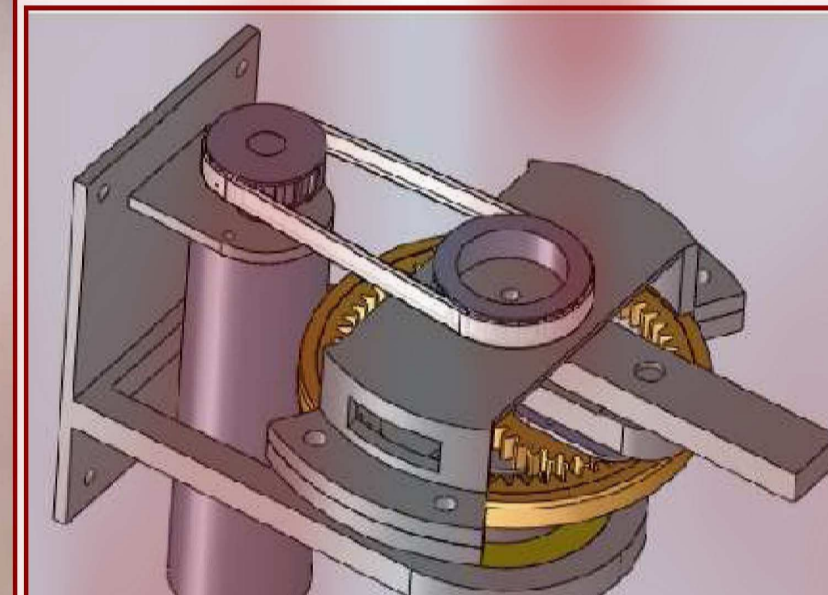
Study of physical and  
biological principles  
governing human motor  
control and learning



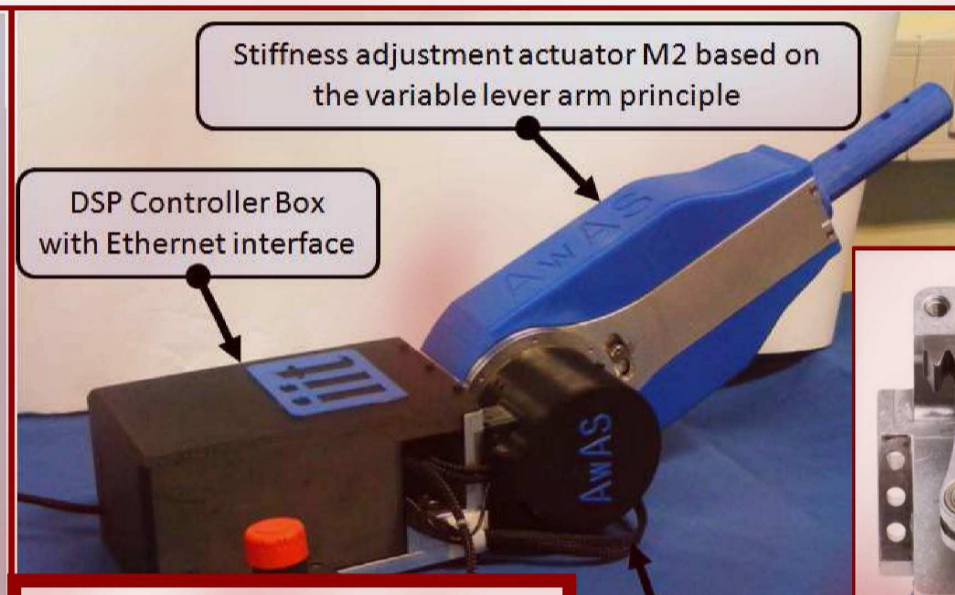
Development of New **Variable Impedance Actuators (VIA)**: Embodying intelligence for safe, efficient and compliant systems.



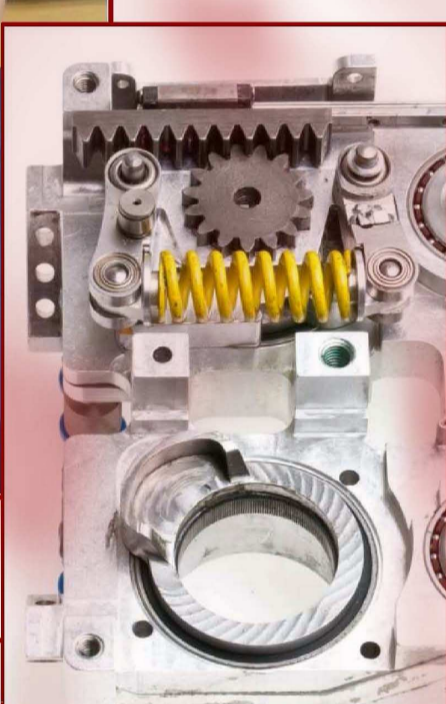
VSA-HD



VSA UT-2



Awas II



BAVS

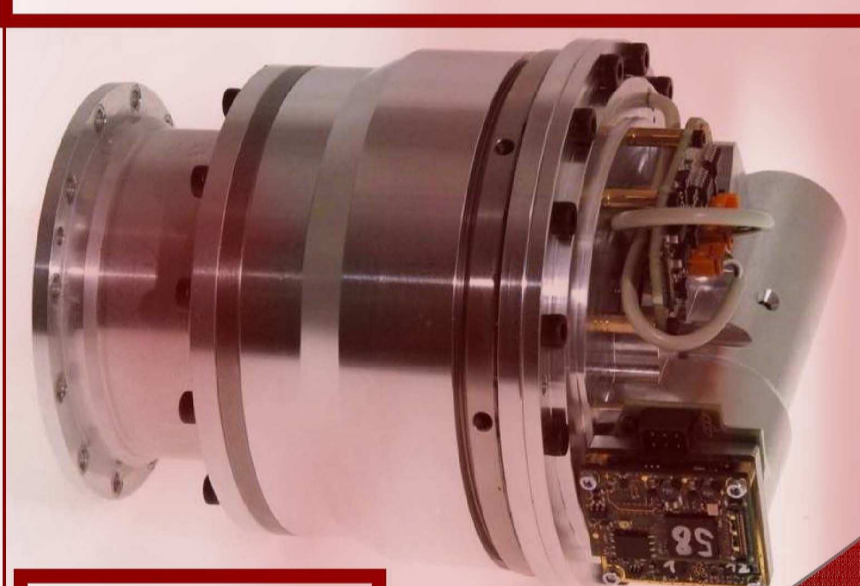


MACCEPA



VSA-Cube

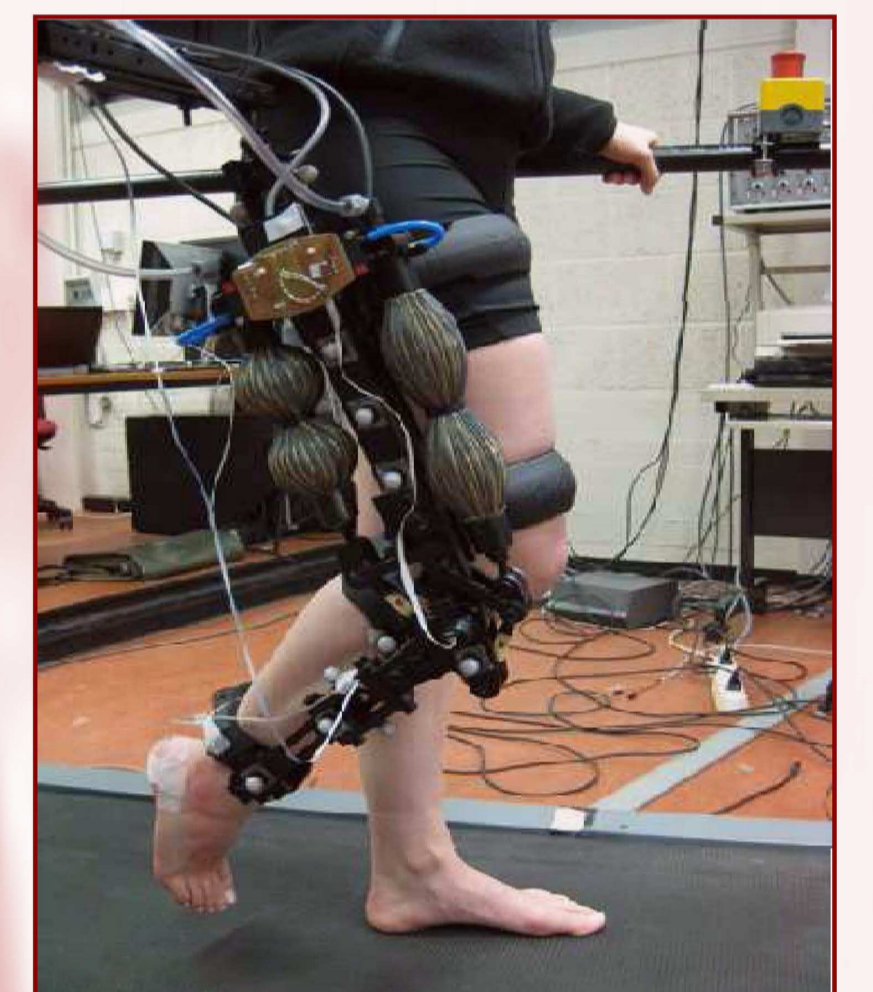
multi-layer dielectric  
elastomer transducers



FSJ

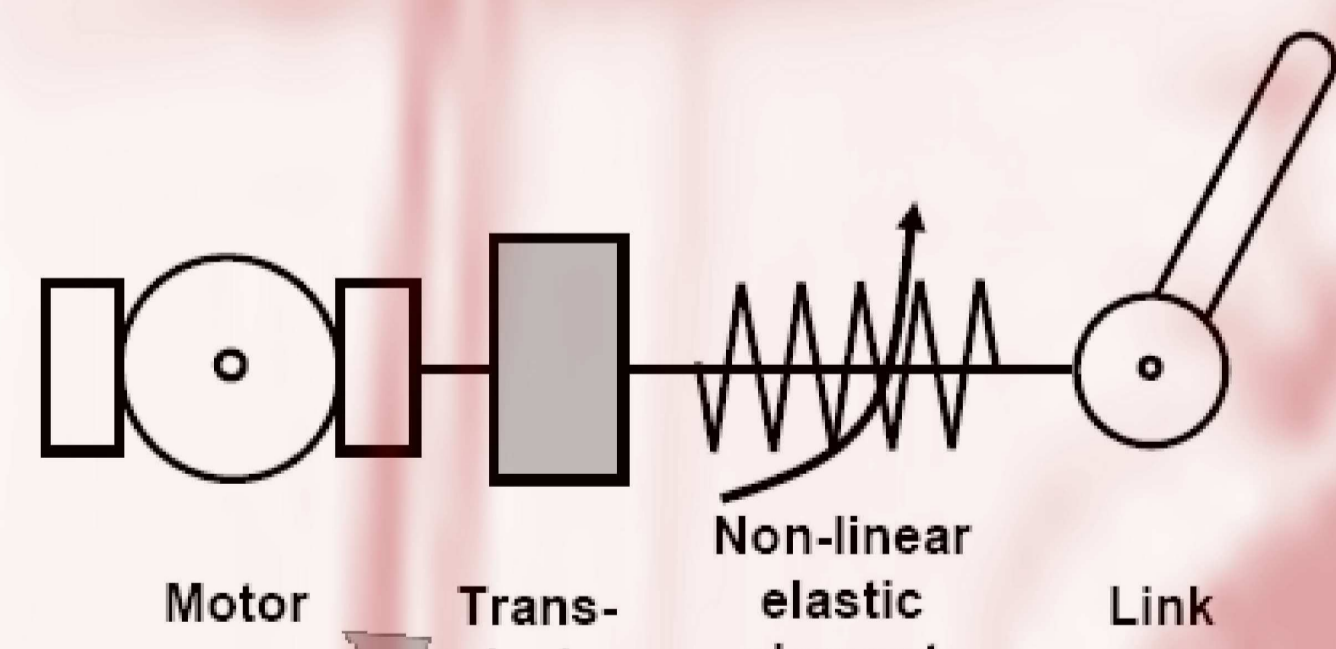
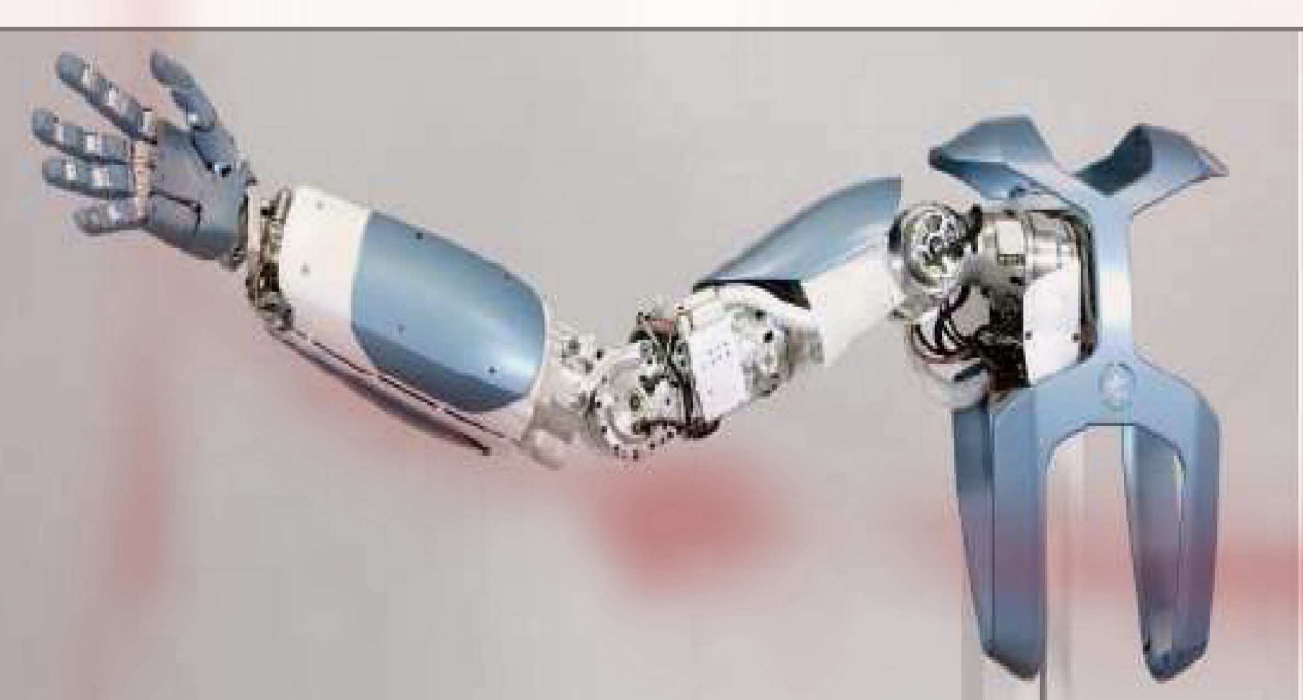
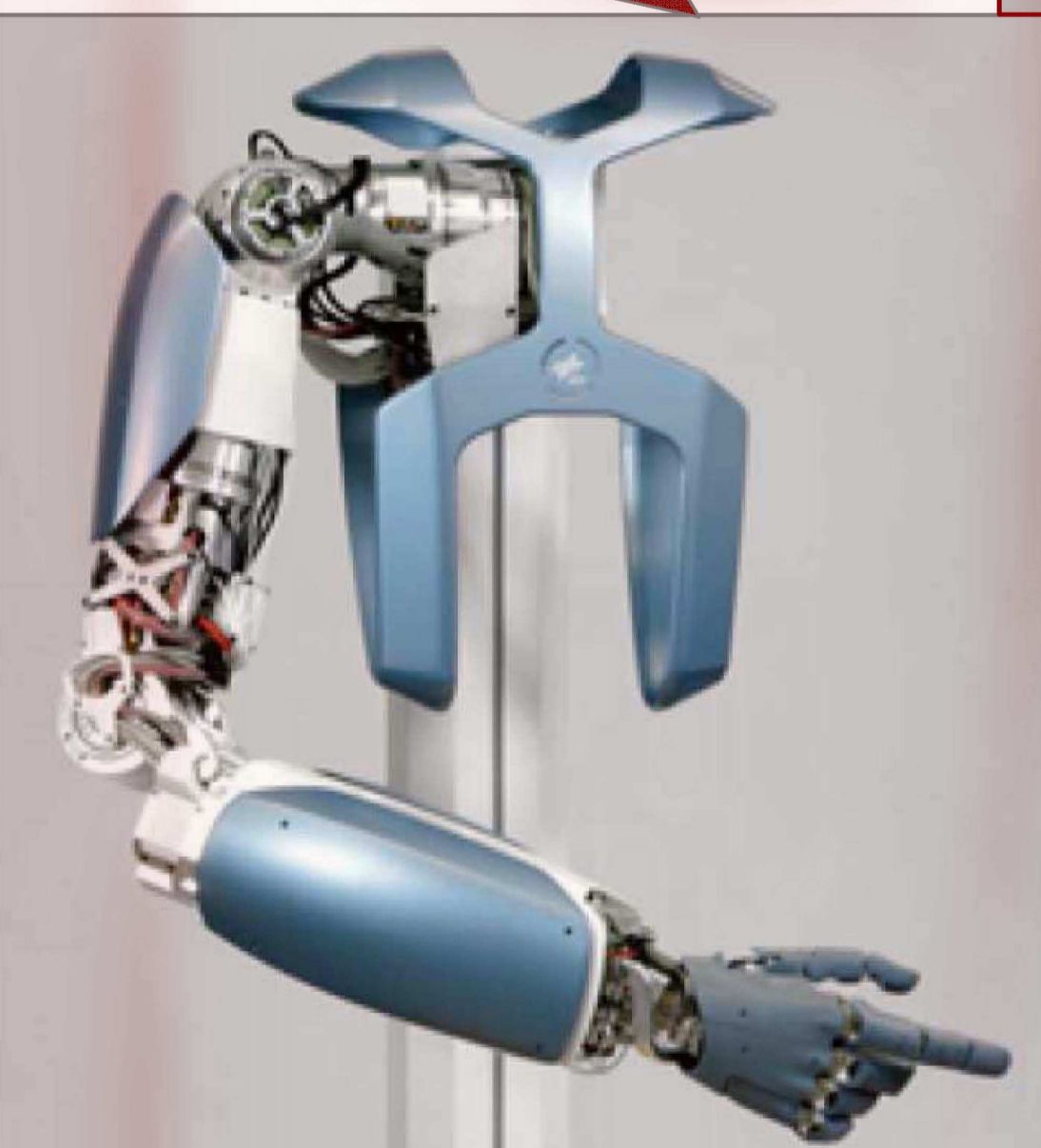
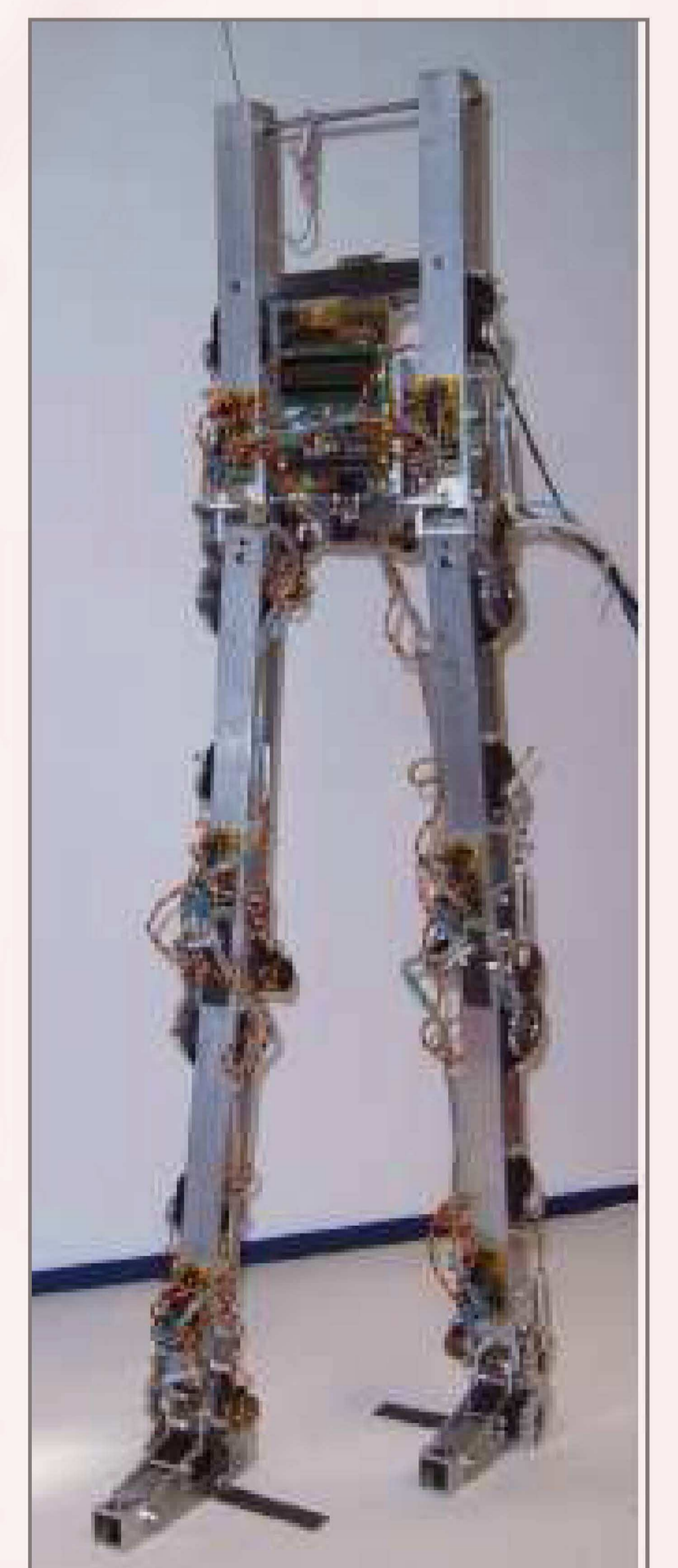
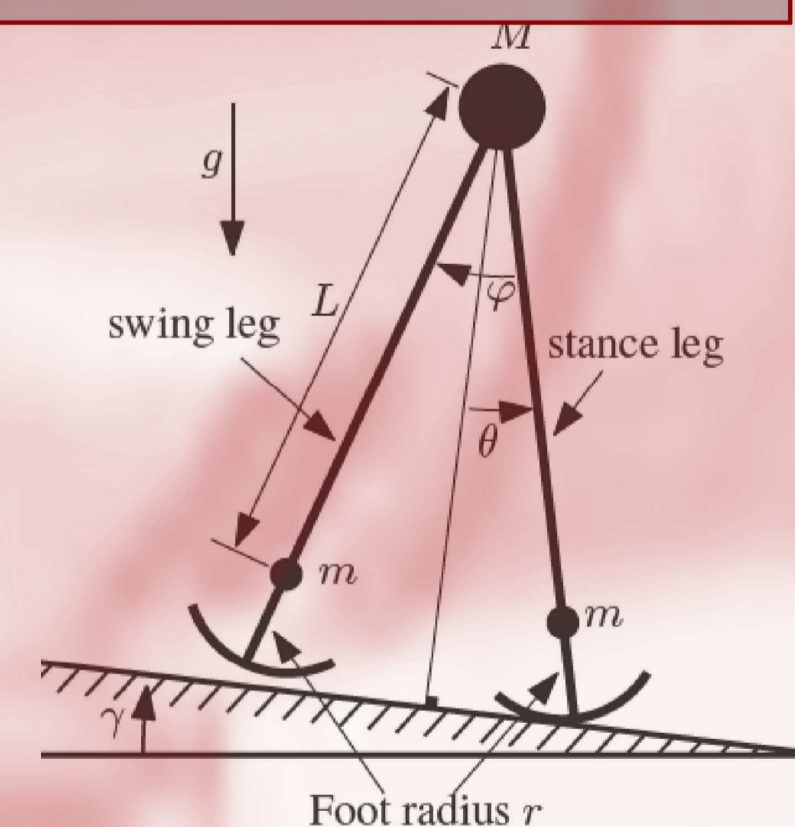
VIA for  
Arms and  
Hands

VIA for  
Rehabilitation



Study of the similarities between  
rehabilitation and motor learning  
in healthy subjects as a tool to  
develop efficient rehabilitation  
strategies.

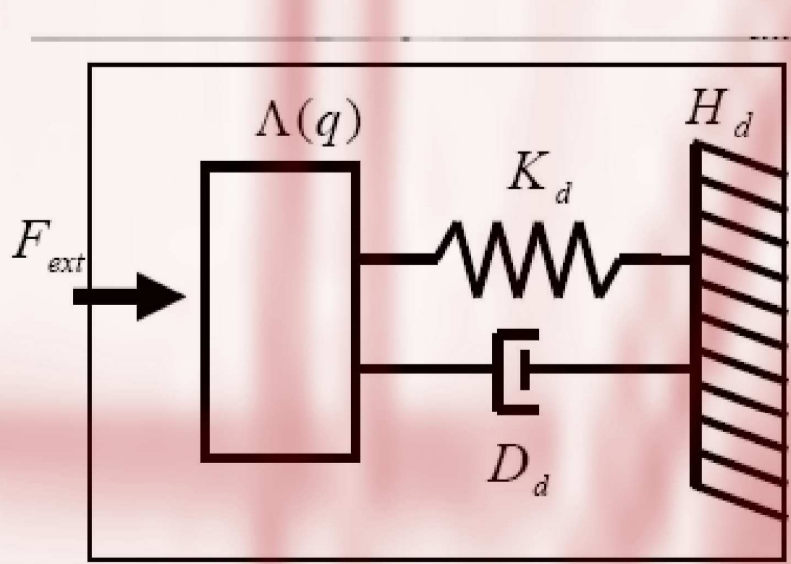
VIA for  
Locomotion



Desired joint properties:

- Adjustable position
- Adjustable stiffness
- Adjustable damping

Control goals



By using VIAs, the natural oscillatory dynamics of the system can be tuned to closely resemble the desired periodic motions required for the gait patterns. In addition, introducing compliance to the legs can enlarge the intrinsic overall robustness of the system to disturbances.

The DLR Hand Arm System mimics the kinematics and dynamics of the human arm using passive variable compliance actuators.



Imperial College  
London



Vrije  
Universiteit  
Brussel