



***Elective in Robotics***

# **Haptic and Locomotion Interfaces**

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**SAPIENZA**  
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

# Haptic and Locomotion interfaces



*"Haptic interfaces* refers to interfaces involving the human hand and to manual sensing and manipulation"  
(Durlach et al., 1994)

- a haptic interface is made of
  - a mechanical position tracker
  - actuated joints
- it is just a *robot attached to a human*

*Locomotion interfaces* refers to interfaces involving the human body/legs/feet and to natural or induced locomotion



# What is "haptic"?

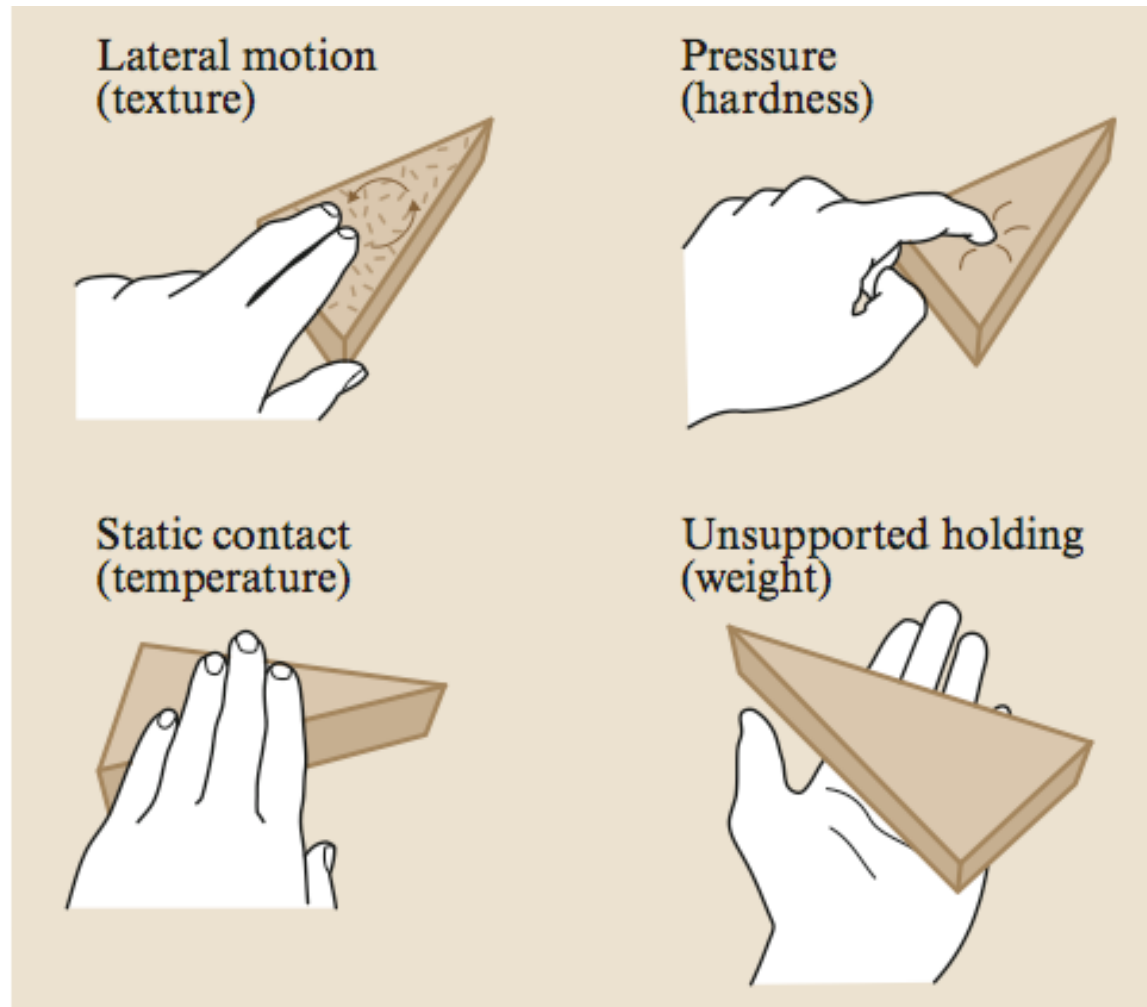
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from Merriam-Webster dictionary

- from the Greek ἅπτεισθαί = *haptesthai* = to touch
- an adjective (the word is "haptics")
- circa 1890
- relating to or based on the **sense of touch**
- or, characterized by a predilection for the sense of touch  
<a haptic person>



# Human exploratory procedures





## A force-exchange point of view

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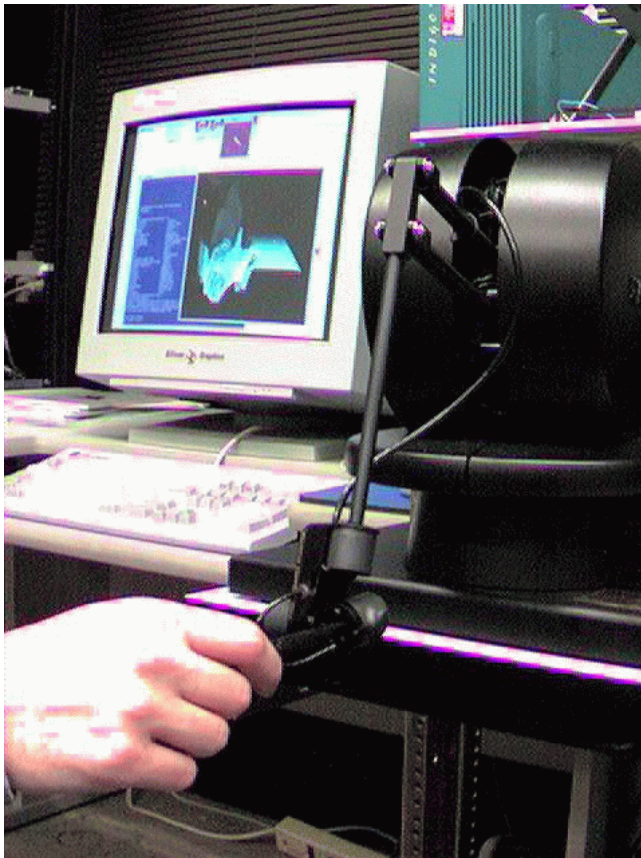
*Haptic interfaces* are robots that apply forces to the human body to display or relocate information

where are forces typically applied?

- **conventional** haptics: on arms and/or hands
- **foot** haptics (e.g., Iwata's GaitMaster)
- **whole-body** haptics (e.g., Sarcos Treadport, inertial emulators)



# Conventional haptic interfaces



ground based  
(Phantom)



body based  
(UTAH teleoperator arm)

# Haptic hand devices



PHANTOM Desktop  
⇒ now **Geomagic Touch X**



PHANTOM Omni  
⇒ now **Geomagic Touch**

(**SensAble Technologies** ⇒ now **3D Systems**)



# PHANTOM Desktop data sheet

## PHANTOM Desktop Technical Specifications



### 3D force feedback

Force feedback workspace	~6.4 W x 4.8 H x 4.8 D in. > 160 W x 120 H x 120 D mm.
Footprint (Physical area the base of device occupies on desk)	5 5/8 W x 7 1/4 D in. ~143 W x 184 D mm.
Weight (device only)	6 lbs. 5oz.
Range of motion	Hand movement pivoting at wrist
Nominal position resolution	> 1100 dpi. ~ 0.023 mm.
Backdrive friction	< 0.23 oz. (0.06 N)
Maximum exertable force at nominal (orthogonal arms) position	1.8 lbf. (7.9 N)
Continuous exertable force (24 hrs.)	0.4 lbf. (1.75 N)
Stiffness	X axis > 10.8 lbs. / in. (1.86 N / mm.) Y axis > 13.6 lbs. / in. (2.35 N / mm.) Z axis > 8.6 lbs. / in. (1.48 N / mm.)
Inertia (apparent mass at tip)	~0.101 lbm. (45 g)
Force feedback	x, y, z
Position sensing [Stylus gimbal]	x, y, z (digital encoders) [Pitch, roll, yaw ( $\pm 3\%$ linearity potentiometers)]
Interface	Parallel port and FireWire® option*
Supported platforms	Intel or AMD-based PCs
OpenHaptics® SDK compatibility	Yes
Applications	Selected Types of Haptic Research, the FreeForm® Modeling™, and the FreeForm® Modeling Plus™ systems





# Geomagic Touch X data sheet



Geomagic Touch X
~6.4 W x 4.8 H x 4.8 D in > 160 W x 120 H x 120 D mm
Hand movement pivoting at wrist
> 1100 dpi ~0.023 mm
1.8 lbf/7.9 N
x-axis > 10.8 lb/in (1.86 N/mm) y-axis > 13.6 lb/in (2.35 N/mm) z-axis > 8.6 lb/in (1.48 N/mm)
x, y, z
x, y, z (digital encoders)
[Roll, pitch, yaw ( $\pm 3\%$ linearity potentiometers)]
IEEE 802.3 Ethernet port (USB option)



# Geomagic Touch



available at the **DIAG Robotics Lab** (more on this specific device later)



# A VR application in surgery



video

## Immersive Touch

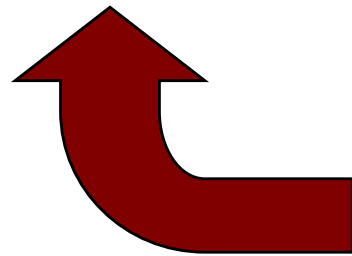


# OMEGA 6D hand device

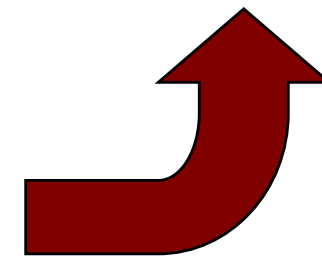
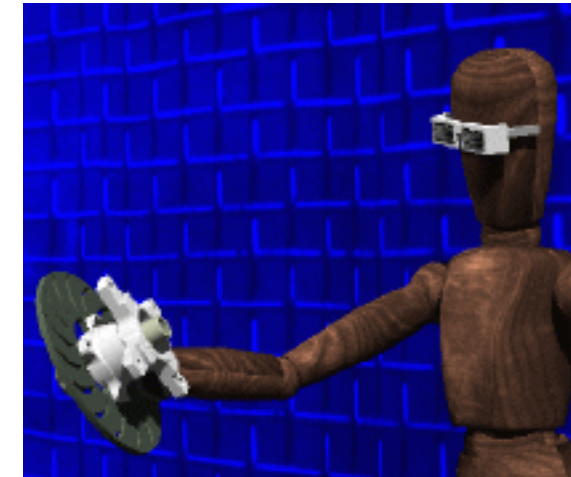


6D force feedback, Stewart platform  
(Force Dimension)

# Haptic interfaces: Teleoperation and Virtual Reality



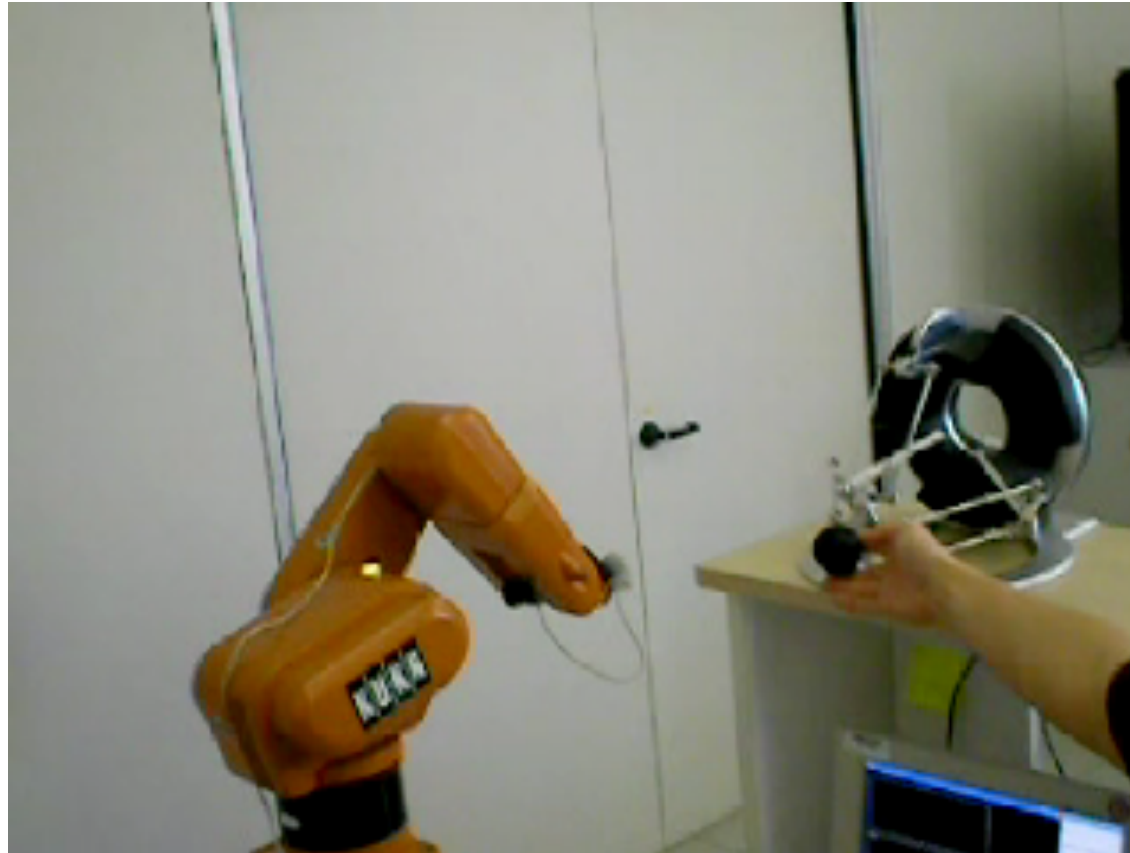
teleoperation  
in the real world



an agent  
in the virtual world



# Teleoperation with an haptic interface

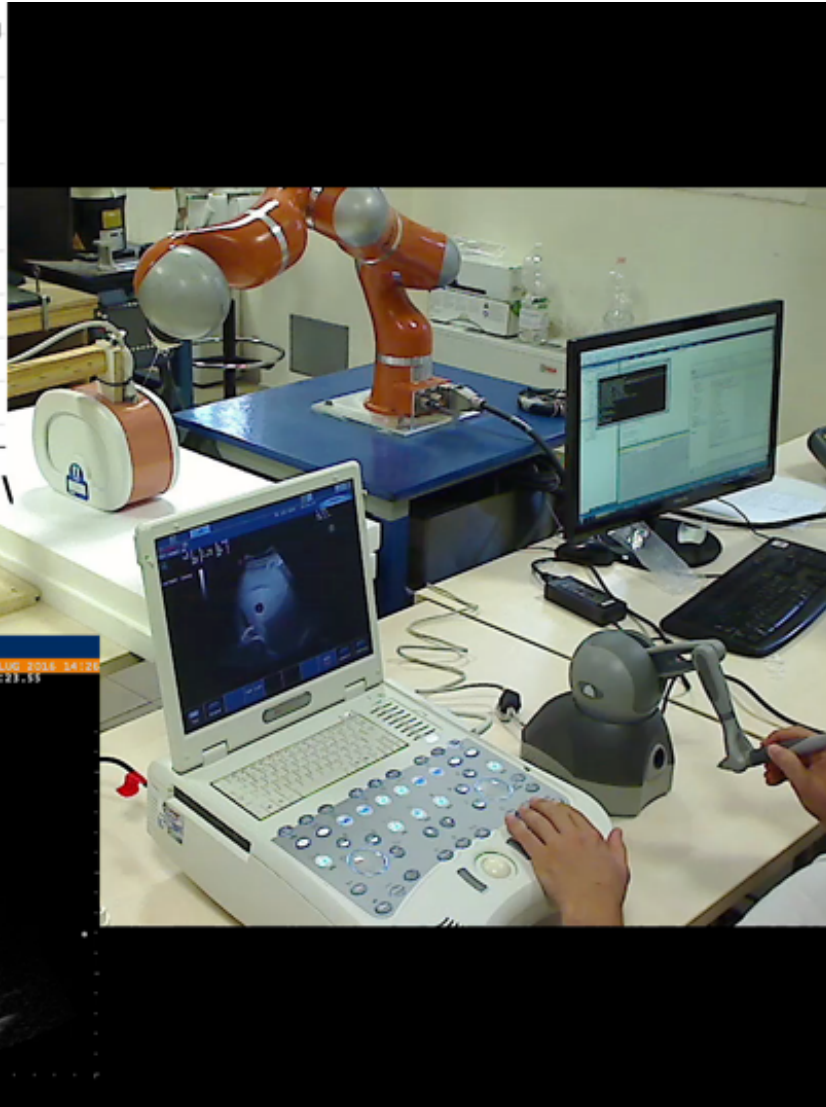
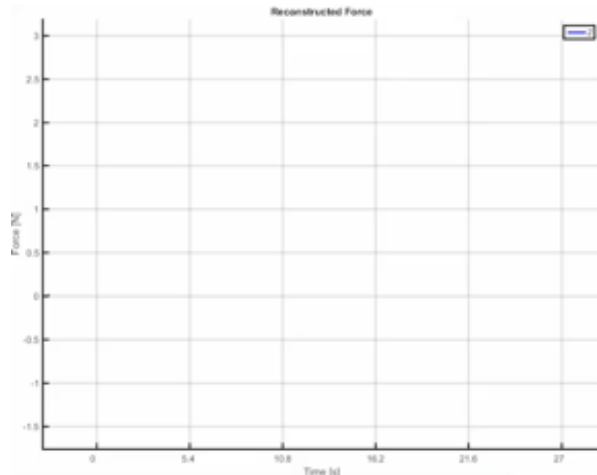


video

using an Omega device  
(European project [Robocast](http://131.175.32.10/Robocast): <http://131.175.32.10/Robocast>)



# Haptic control in medical applications (needle steering)



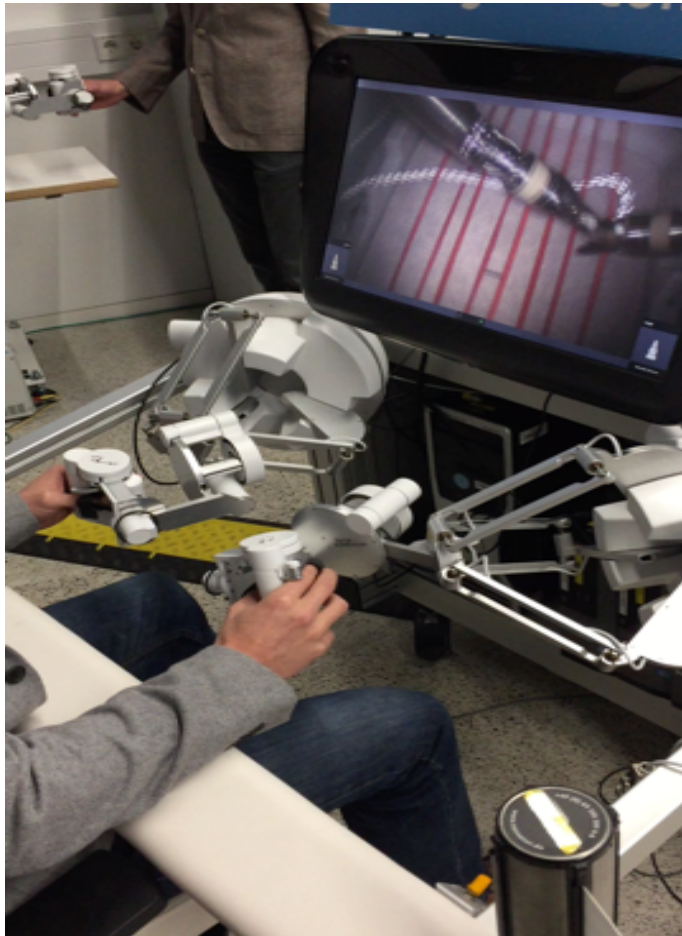
KUKA LWR  
holding the  
needle

Geomagic  
Touch  
haptic device

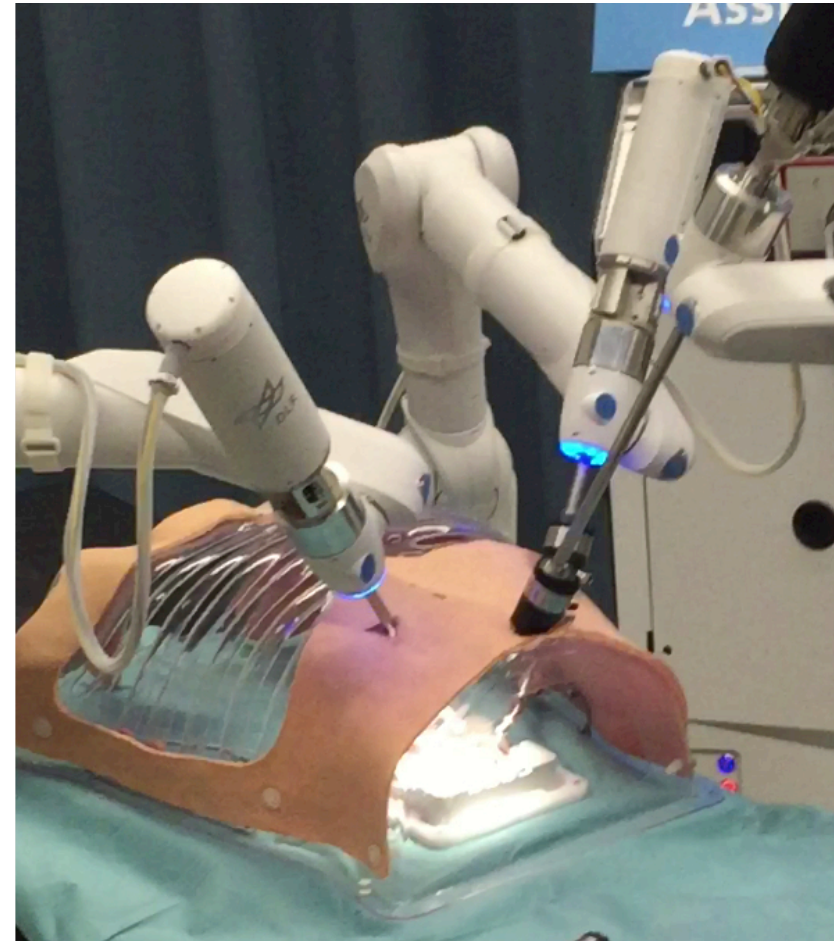
video

# Bimanual haptic control in medical robotics

video



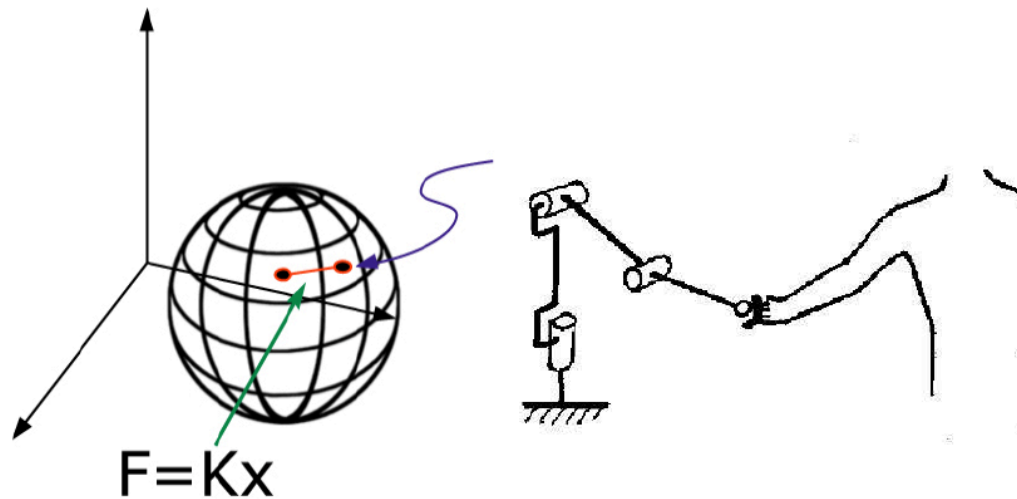
Two DLR 7-dof haptic devices  
(Omega-type)



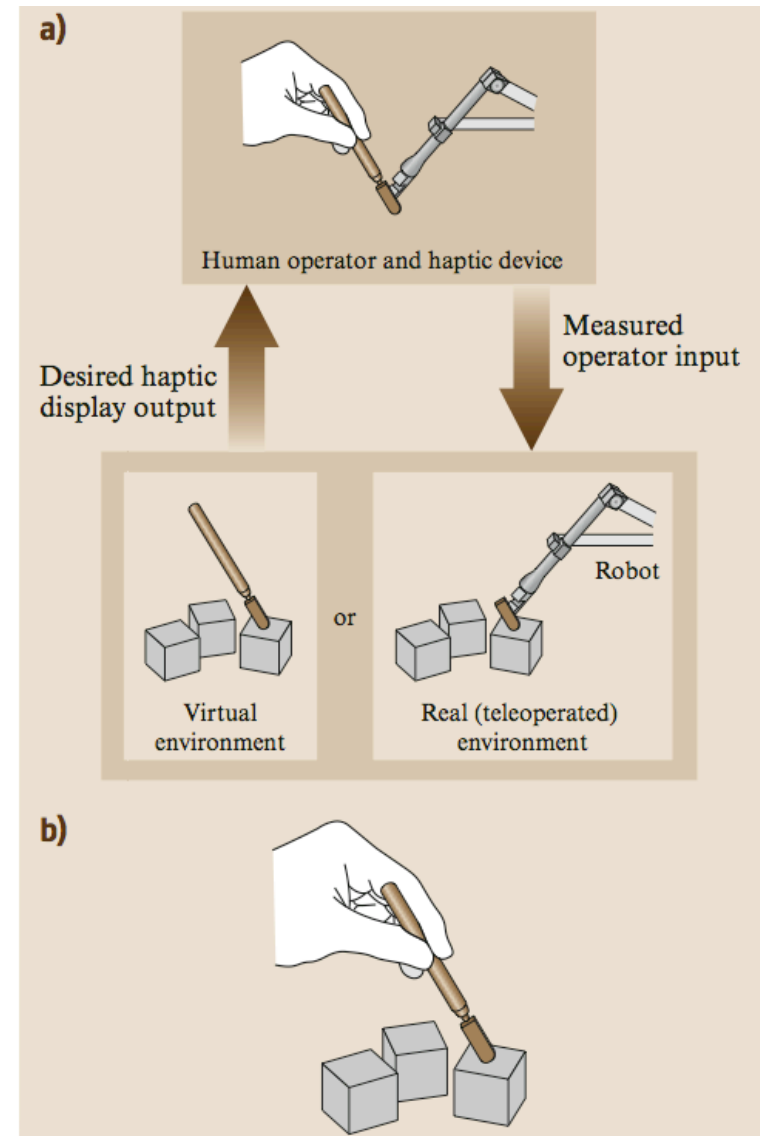
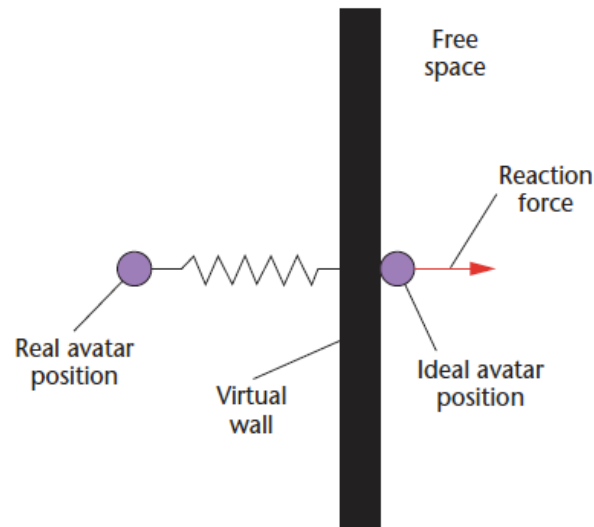
DLR MIRO robot (three arms,  
each 7-dof, one with camera)



# Force feedback from Virtual or Real world



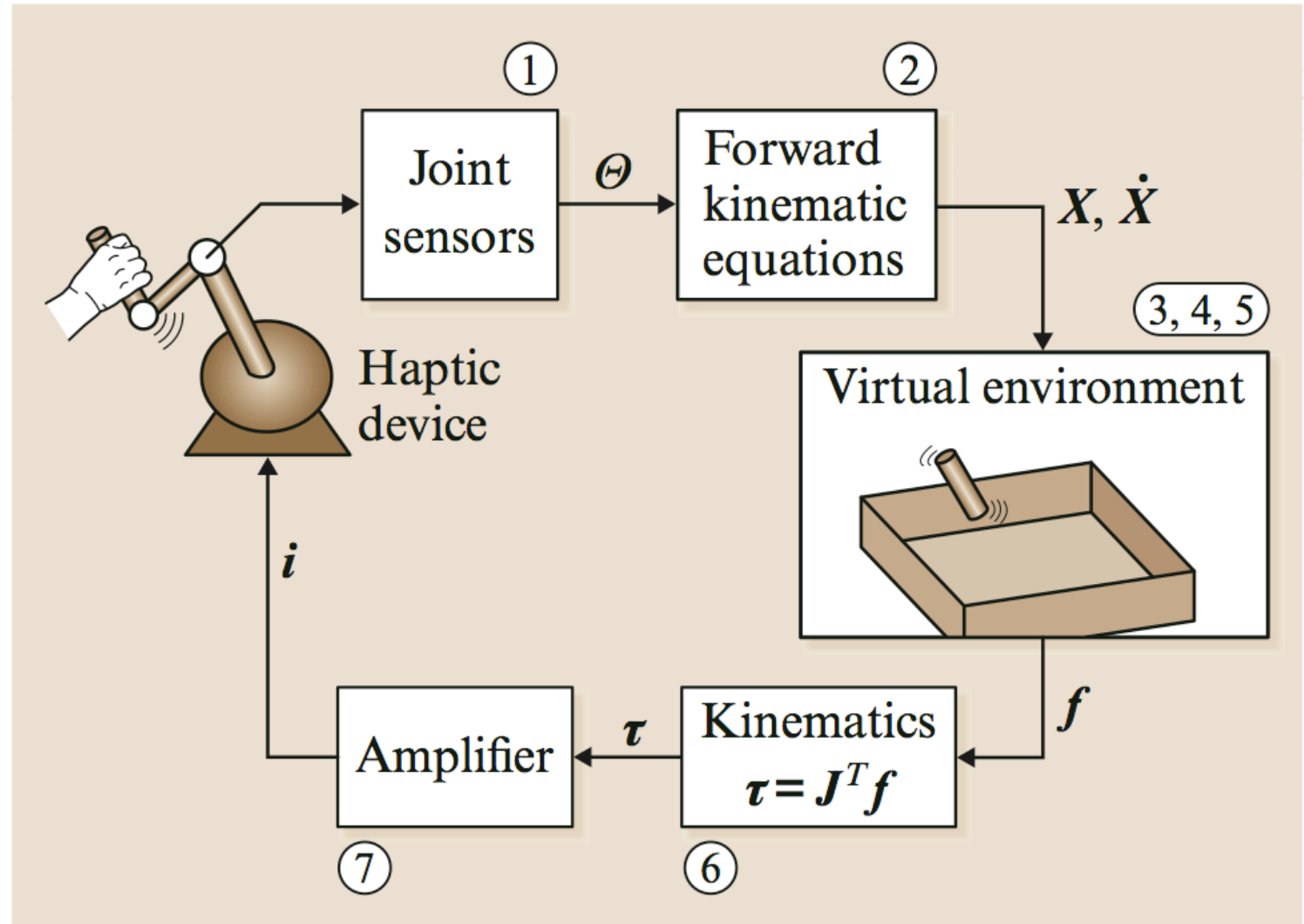
virtual environment compliance modeled with a **spring**/damper





# Haptic rendering control loop

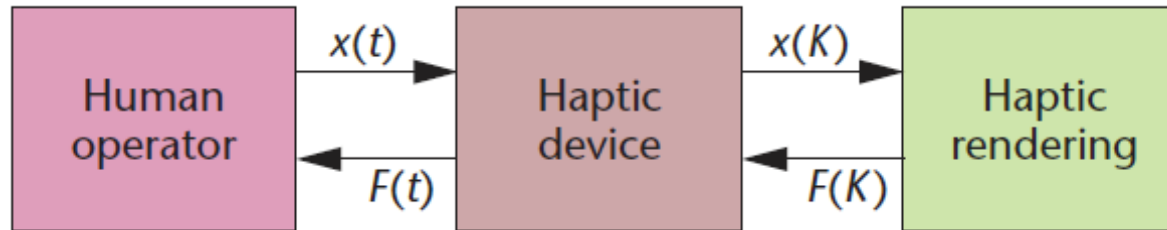
- ① joint displacement sensing (on device)
- ② (direct) kinematics
- ③ collision detection (environment geometry)
- ④ surface point determination
- ⑤ force calculation
- ⑥ kineto-statics
- ⑦ actuation (on device)





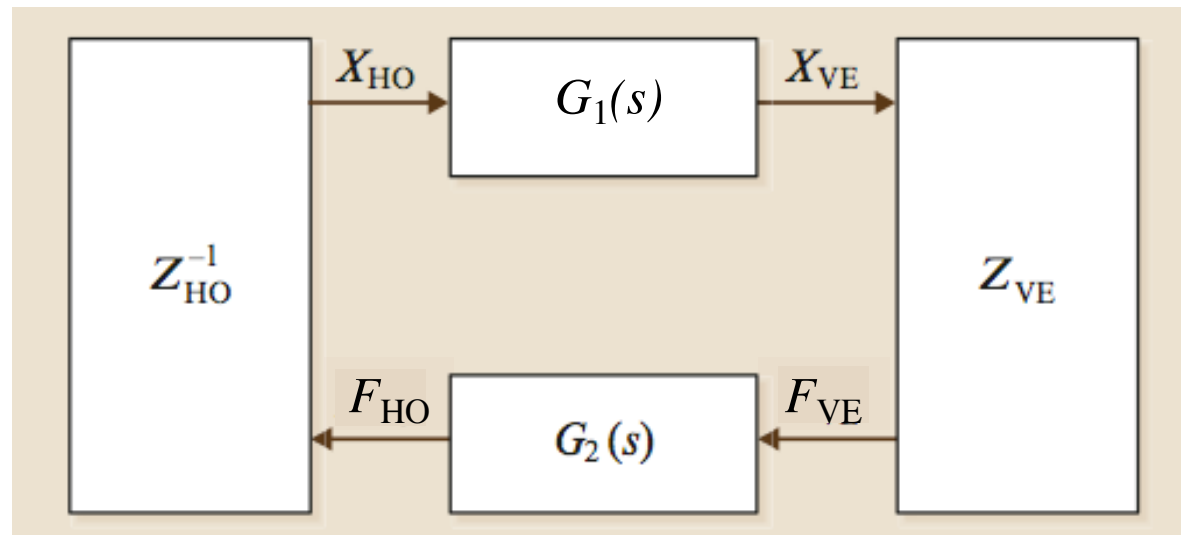
# Haptic rendering control loop

continuous  
time  $t$



discrete  
time  $t_K = KT$

human  
operator  
side



virtual  
environment  
side

impedance (linear) models  
of operator and environment +

(Laplace) transfer functions  
of haptic device for operator's

= local **stability** analysis  
(e.g., by Nyquist criterion)  
of closed-loop system

$$Z_{HO}(s) = \frac{F_{HO}(s)}{X_{HO}(s)} \quad Z_{VE}(s) = \frac{F_{VE}(s)}{X_{VE}(s)}$$

$G_1(s)$  position sensing

$G_2(s)$  force display

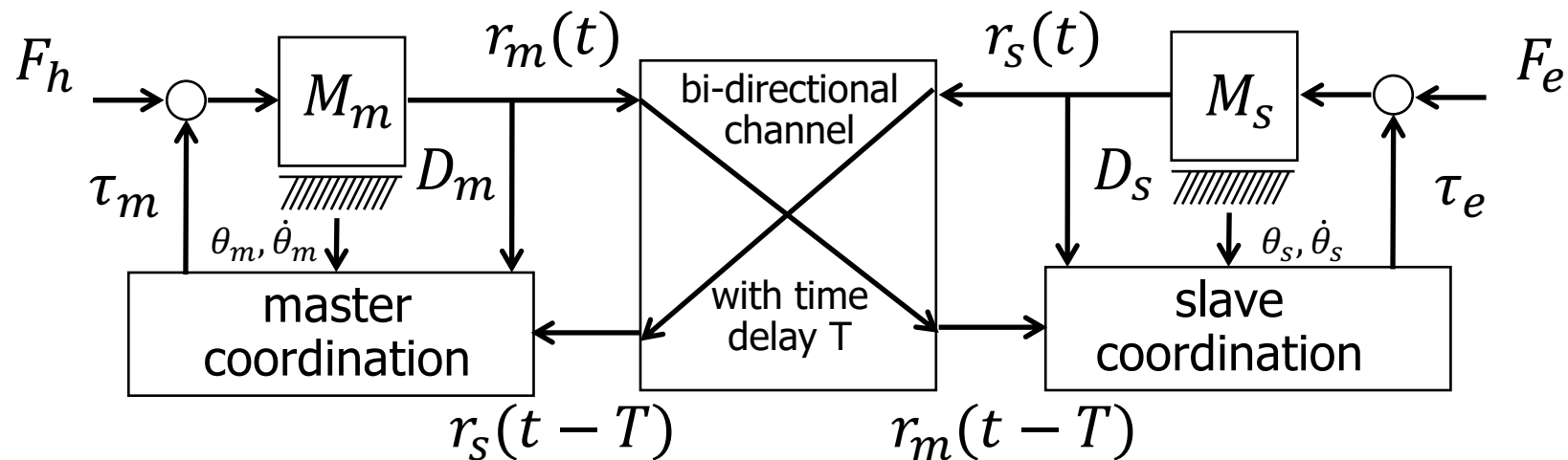
$$G_{loop} = G_1 G_2 \frac{Z_{VE}}{Z_{HO}}$$



# Telemanipulation (1-dof) control loop - 1

**master** (operator side)  $M_m \ddot{\theta}_m + D_m \dot{\theta}_m = \tau_m + F_h$  **slave** (environment side)  $M_s \ddot{\theta}_s + D_s \dot{\theta}_s = \tau_s + F_e$

$\tau_m$ : master coordination torque (applied by motors)  $\uparrow$   
 $F_h$ : applied by human  $\uparrow$   
 $\tau_s$ : slave coordination torque (applied by motors)  $\uparrow$   
 $F_e$ : reaction by environment  $\uparrow$

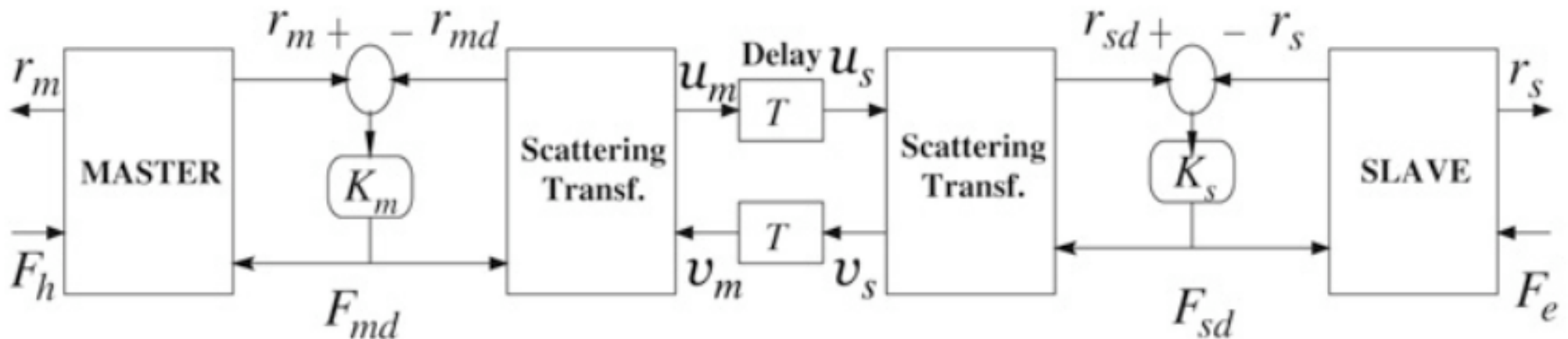


$$r_i = \dot{\theta}_i + \lambda \theta_i \quad i = m, s$$



## Telemanipulation (1-dof) control loop - 2

to preserve **passivity** of the closed-loop in the presence of a delay  $T$ , **scattering** transformations are often introduced

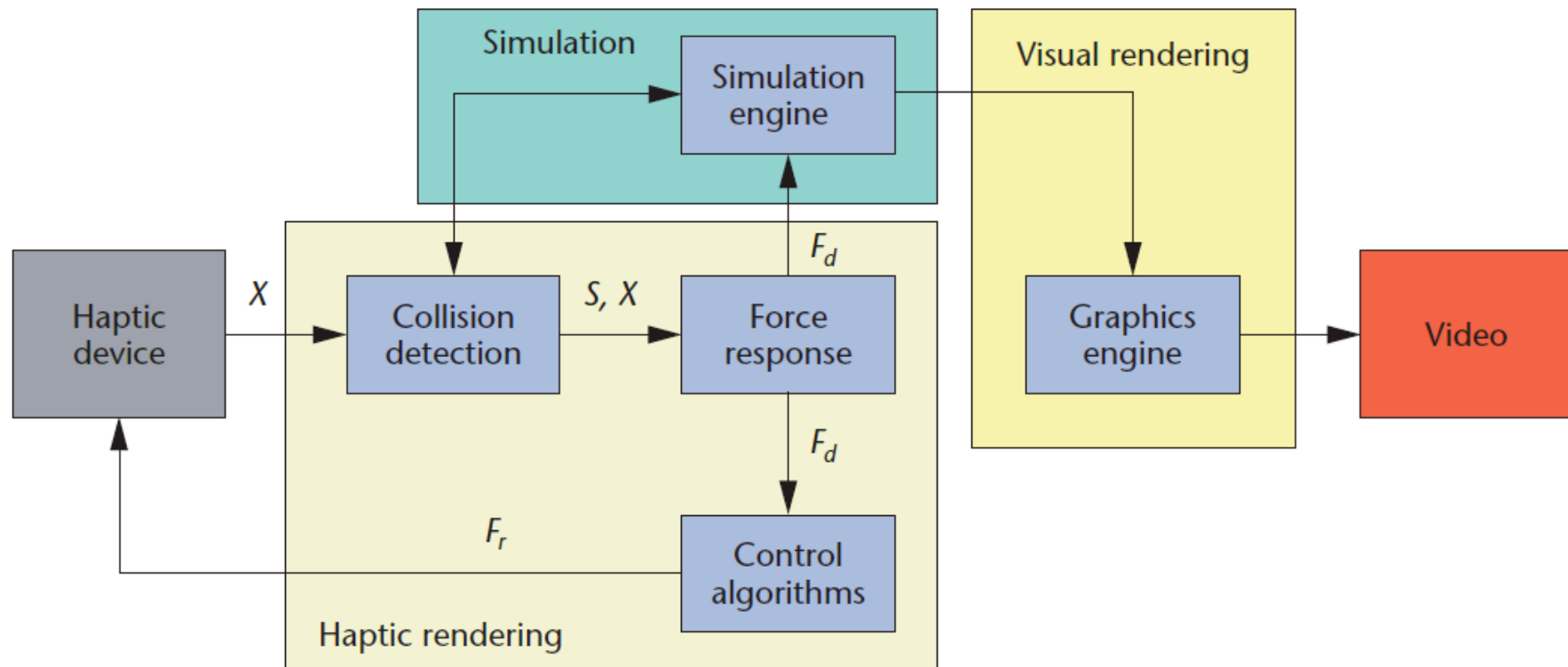
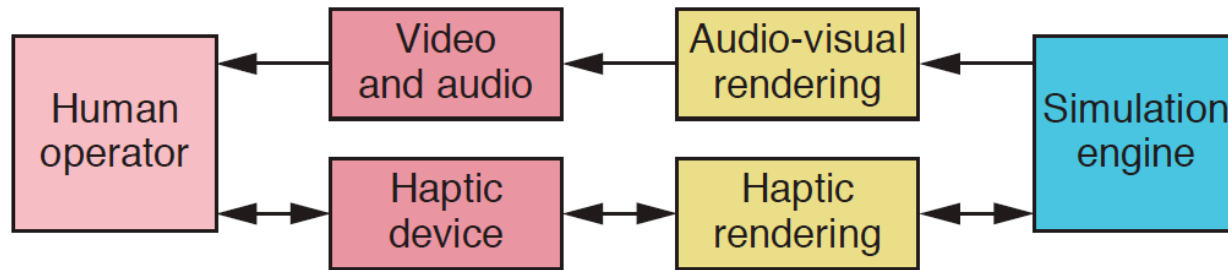


**scattering variables**  $u_m, v_s$  (and their delayed versions) are suitable **combinations** of local torque and position/velocity variables

(see, e.g., Chopra, Spong, Lozano:  
"Synchronization of bilateral teleoperators with time delay," Automatica, 2008)

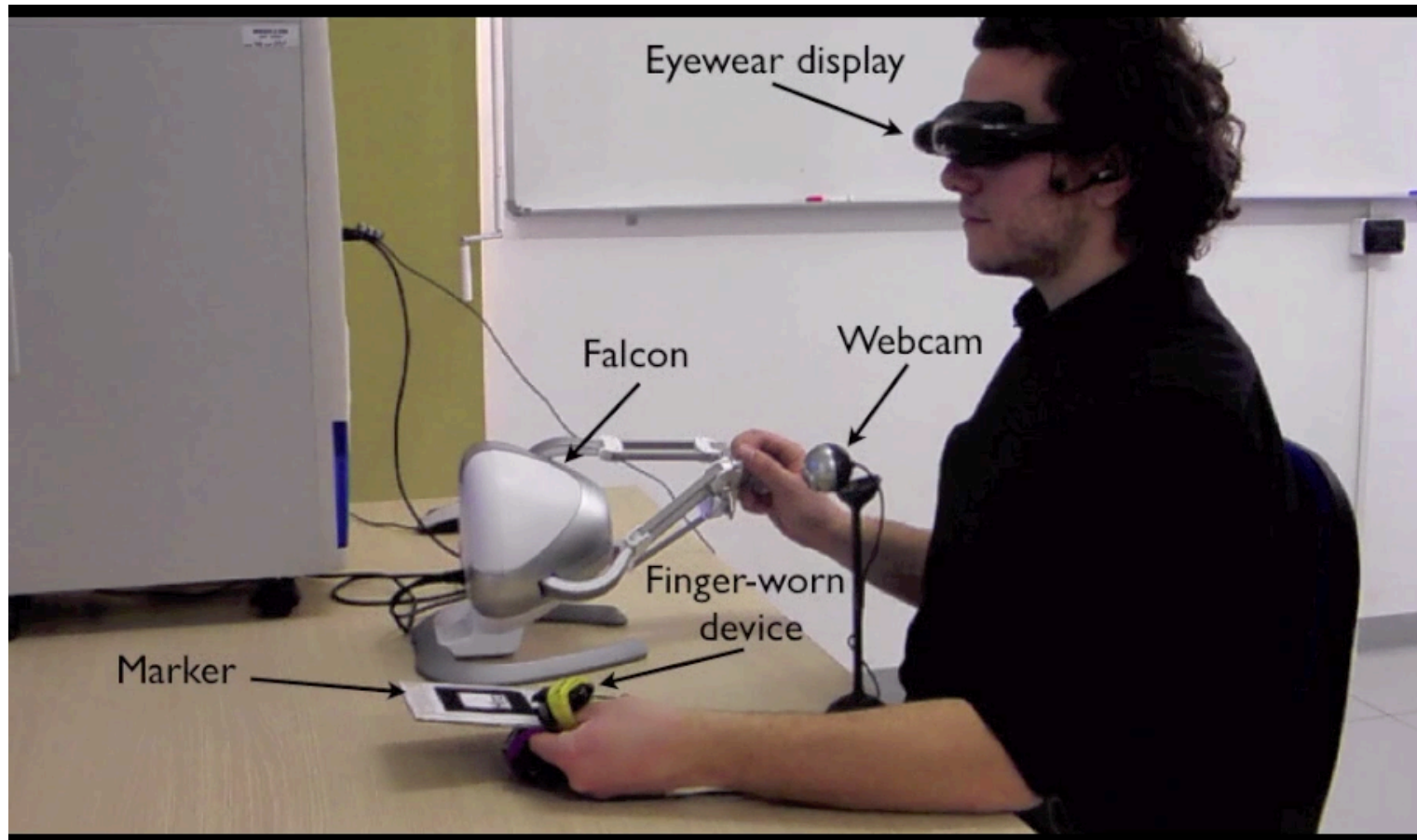


# Haptic/visual rendering architecture





# Haptic rendering and augmented reality



video

University of Siena (<http://sirslab.dii.unisi.it>)

# Human-machine interface for team formation



video

## Bilateral Teleoperation of Groups of UAVs with Decentralized Connectivity Maintenance

Paolo Robuffo Giordano, Antonio Franchi,  
Cristian Secchi, and Heinrich H. Bühlhoff



MAX PLANCK GESELLSCHAFT



Max-Planck-Institut  
für Biologische Kybernetik



Automation  
Robotics and  
System  
CONTROL



Università degli Studi  
di Modena e Reggio Emilia



Human Perception, Cognition and Action  
Max Planck Institute for Biological Cybernetics



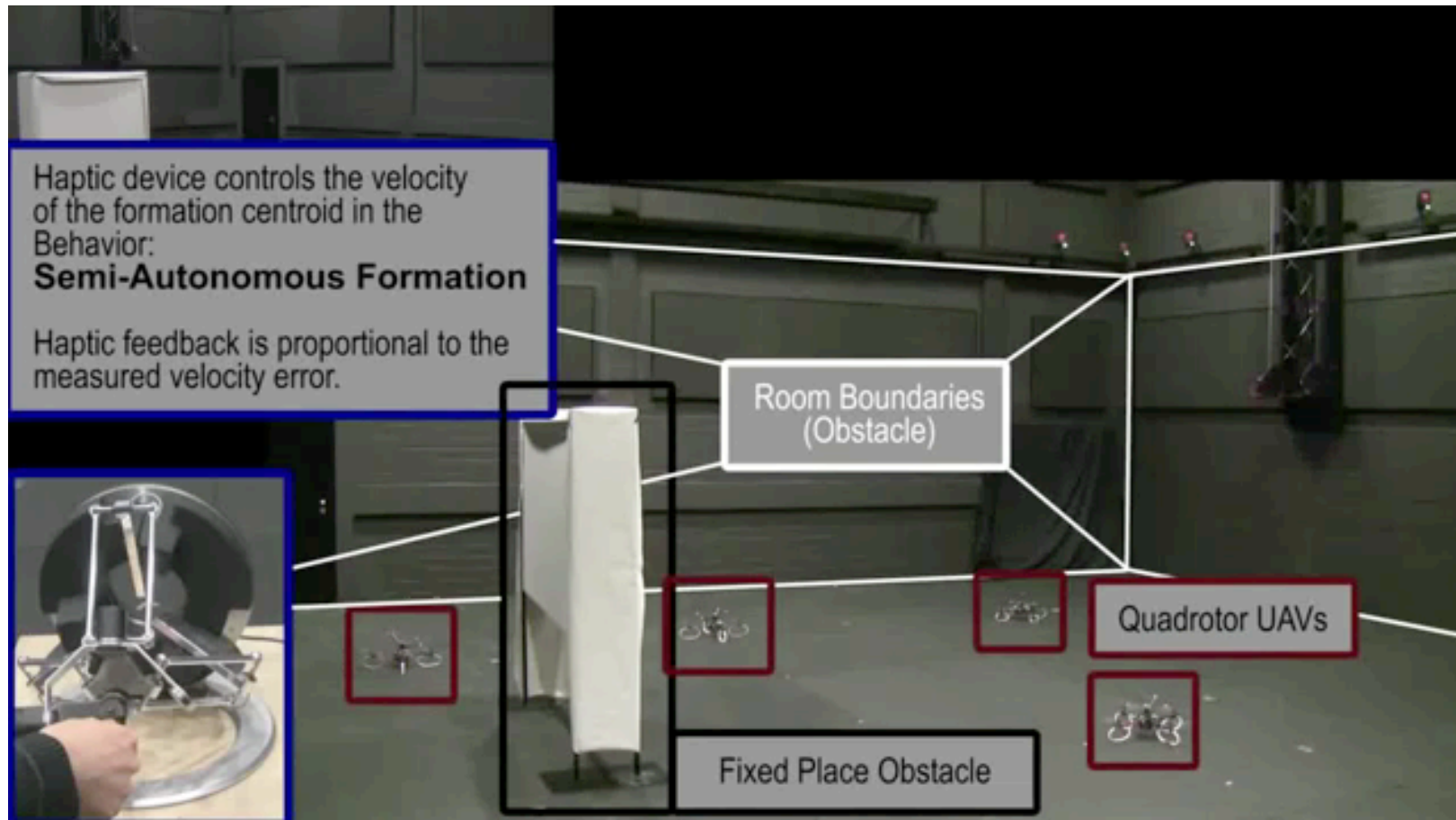
Max Planck Institute of Biological Cybernetics, Tübingen



# Human-machine interface for team formation

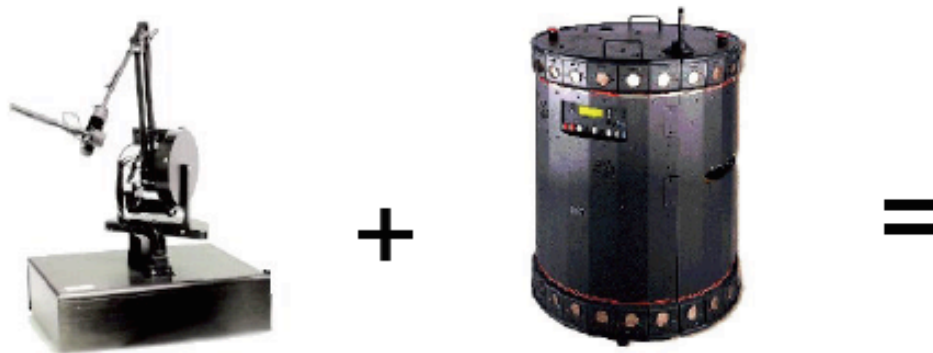


video



Max Planck Institute of Biological Cybernetics, Tübingen

# Mobile haptic devices - 1



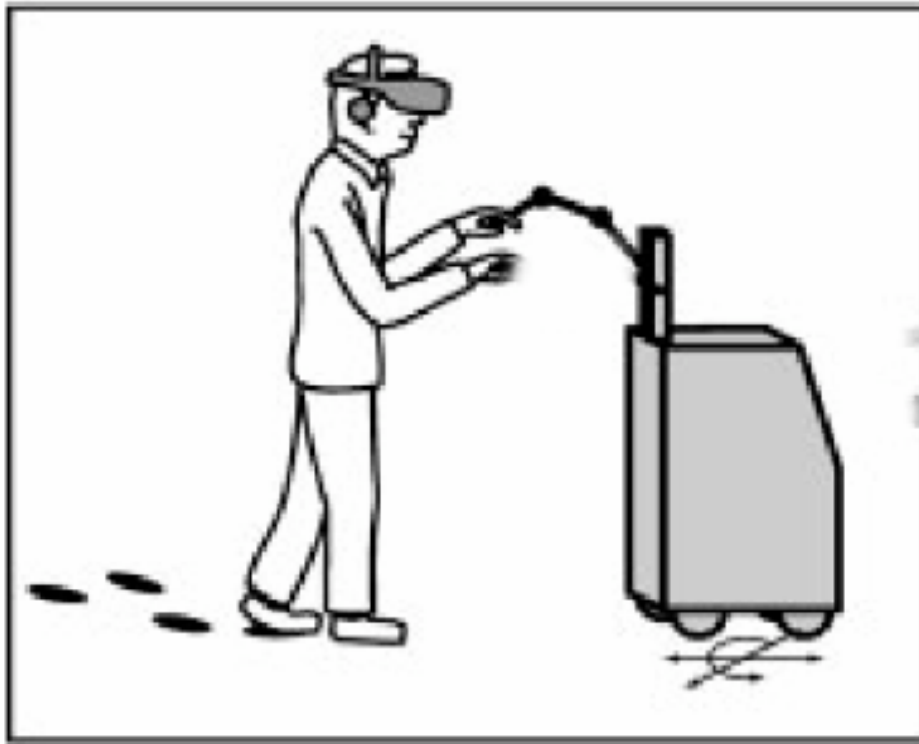
- Force controlled
- Limited workspace
- Fast dynamics

- Position controlled
- Unlimited workspace
- Slow dynamics

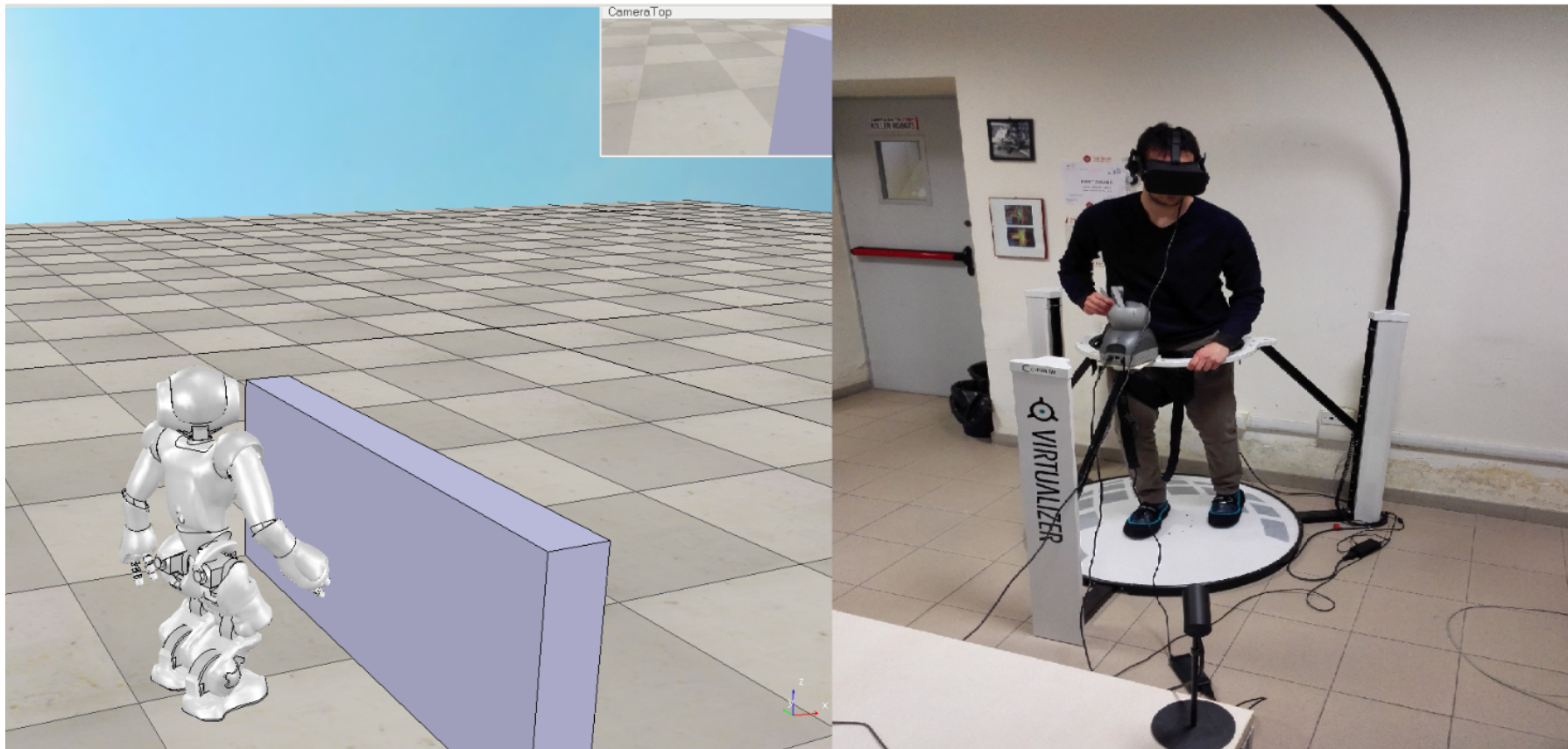
Unlimited workspace

University of Siena (<http://sirslab.dii.unisi.it>)

## Mobile haptic devices - 2



## Mobile haptic devices - 3



@DIAG Sapienza, Jan 2019  
(Andrea Perica, MSc thesis in Control Engineering)

# Powered exoskeletons for human walking augmentation



Berkeley Lower Extremity  
Exoskeleton (BLEEX)



ExoHiker™



Medical Exoskeleton™

H. Kazerooni (<http://bleex.me.berkeley.edu>)



# ExoHiker™

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- designed for carrying heavy loads during long missions
- **weight:** 13.5 kg (with power unit, batteries, and on-board computer)
- **payload:** >65 kg (while the wearer feels no load)
- **noise:** virtually imperceptible
- **duration:**
  - 150 km/kg (Lithium Polymer) battery, at average speed 4 km/h
  - e.g., 80 W/hour battery of 0.52 kg & 65 kg load, sufficient for 21 h
  - unlimited with a small pack-mounted solar panel
- **interface:** small hand-held LCD display
- **features:** easy-stow retractable legs, quick release emergency
- completed in February 2005



# ExoHiker™

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video on YouTube <https://youtu.be/EdK2y3lphmE>

# Foot haptics



Sarcos Biport



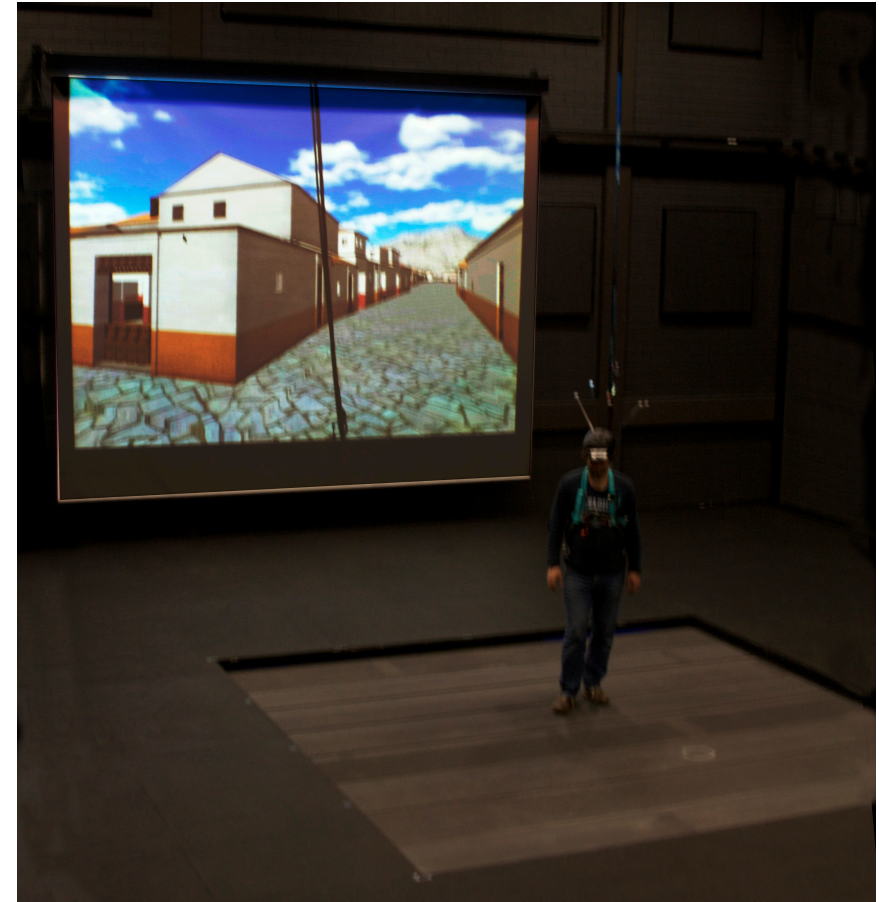
Iwata's GaitMaster



# Whole-body haptics



Sarcos Treadport II



CyberWalk platform

with **immersion** in Virtual Reality/Environment (VR/VE)



# Whole-body haptics: The Ferrari race

video

Video attachment to ICRA'10 paper

A Novel Framework for Closed-Loop Robotic Motion Simulation –  
**Part II: Motion Cueing Design and Experimental Validation**

P. Robuffo Giordano, C. Masone, J. Tesch, M. Breidt, L. Pollini, and H. H. Bühlhoff



Max Planck Institute for  
Biological Cybernetics  
Tübingen



Dipartimento di  
Informatica e Sistemistica  
Università di Roma "La Sapienza"



Dipartimento di  
Sistemi Elettrici e Automazione  
Università di Pisa

with **inertial immersion** in Virtual Reality/Environment (VR/VE)

# Other robots that apply forces to humans



a thin line separates similar robotic devices

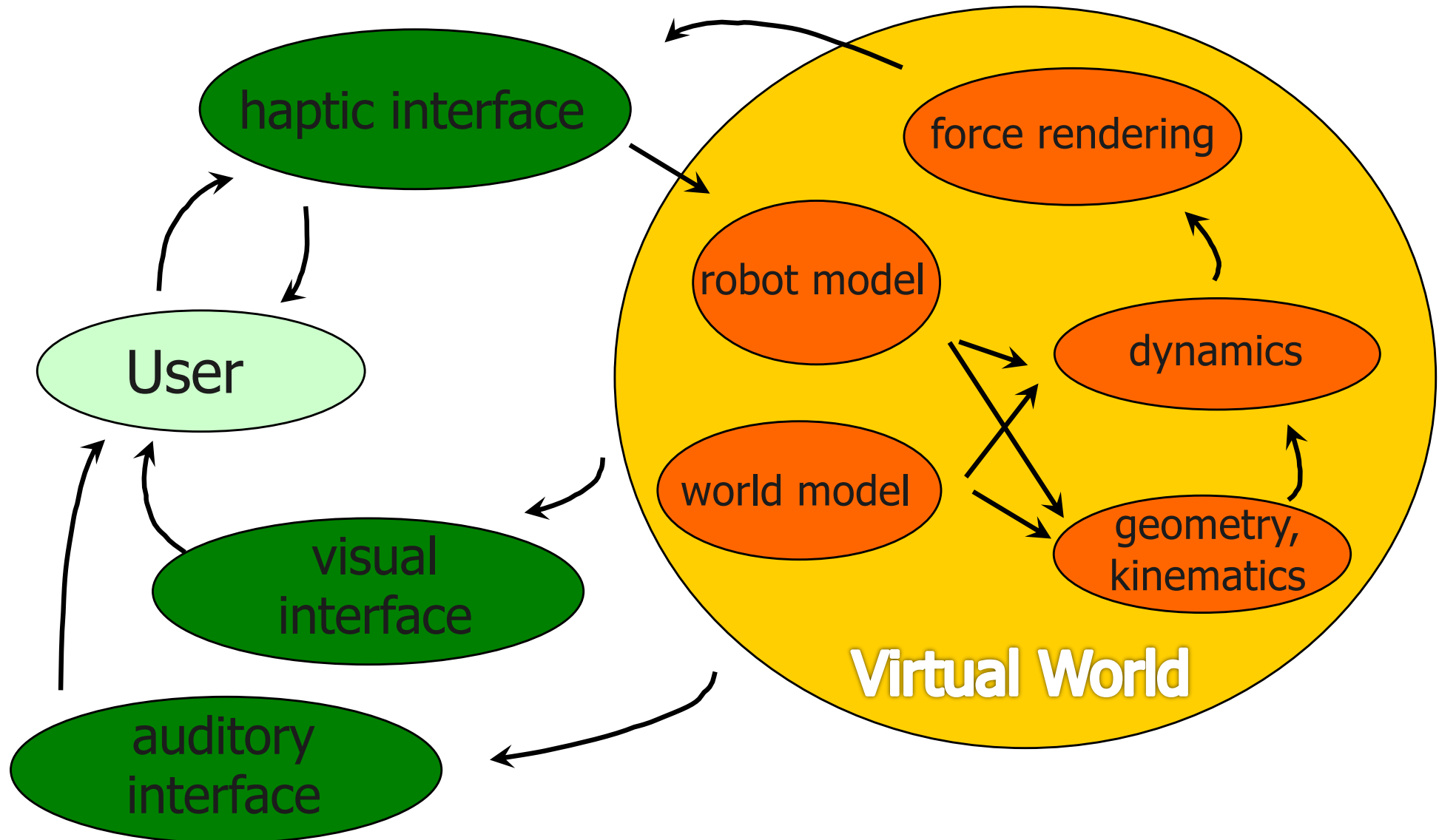
- programmable exercise machines
- rehabilitation robots
- assist devices
- powered exoskeletons

most are intended for interaction with the real world, but immersion in VR is also possible

- in fact, the most general interaction may involve not only vision (and sound) but also haptics
- similar case in human-computer interfaces (HCI)



# A typical haptic/VR system





# Relevant aspects for haptics & VR

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- technical issues
  - device: specifications, design, control transparency & stability
  - simulated environment: fidelity
    - high for objects, low for haptic interaction
- device/hardware
  - precise registration to a simulation
  - human factors for device use
  - cost, size, and dissemination
- real-time simulation/software
  - visual displays: 30-60 Hz
  - haptic displays: 1 kHz, 1 msec delay
    - high-frequency contact transients
    - control instability (especially for hard environments)

# Types and features of motion interfaces from the user point of view



- **passive** motion interfaces
  - non-inertial systems (e.g., joysticks)
  - inertial systems (e.g., Stewart platforms)
  - rate control is used
  - user is seated and does not expend energy
- **active** motion interfaces
  - normal rooms with CAVE or HMD displays
  - locomotion interfaces (e.g., exercise machines) – **actuated** or **not**
  - cyclic proportional control is typically used (**gait**)
  - user expends energy to move through VE
  - sensorimotor integration for geometry
  - human power enhancers for locomotion



## Possible applications

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- entertainment: arcades and exercise
- health rehabilitation
- military training and mission rehearsal
- architectural walkthroughs
- education
- mobile interface (virtual tourist, e-travel)
- physio-psychological research



# Types of locomotion interfaces

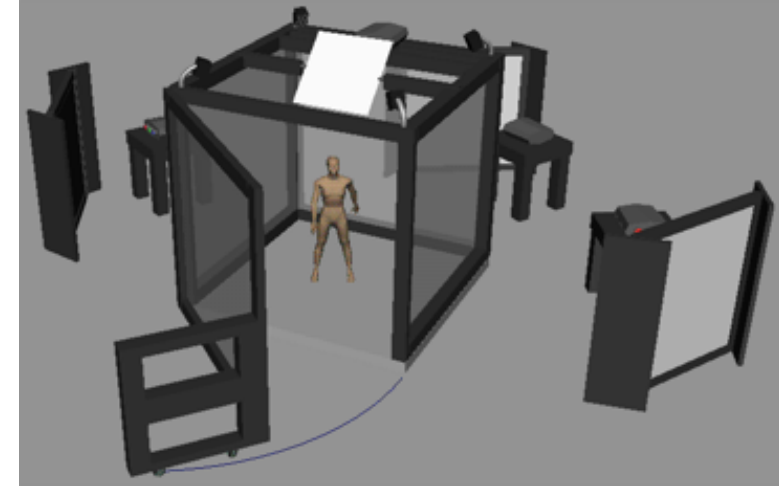
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- instrumented rooms
- pedaling devices
- walking-in-place systems
- programmable foot platforms
- treadmills
- non-actuated platforms
- moving bases
- ...





# CAVE and HMD



Cave Automatic Virtual Environment (ELV, Univ Illinois Chicago)



eMagin Z800



Head Mounted Display (with tracker)



# Room-size environments





# Room instrumentation



# Pedaling devices



Tectrix VR bicycle  
(Georgia Tech)



Sarcos Uniport

# Walking-in-place systems



Templeman's Gaiter system  
(US Navy Research Lab)

# Programmable foot platforms



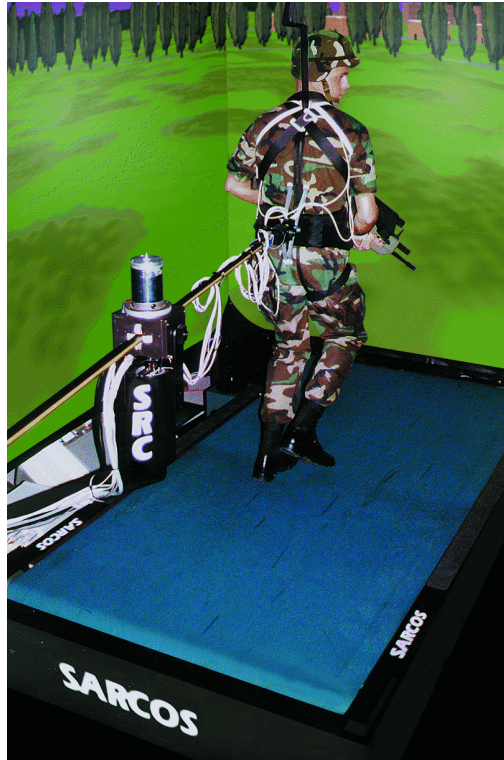
Sarcos Biport



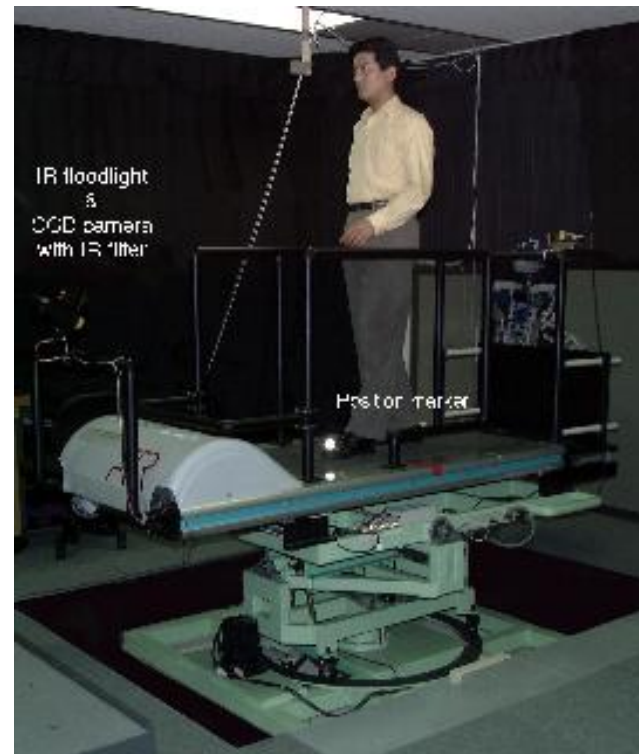
Iwata's GaitMaster

cyclic walking in 3D

# 1D linear treadmill platforms



Sarcos Treadport



ATR ATLAS



ATR GSS  
(ground surface simulator)



# Sarcos Treadport

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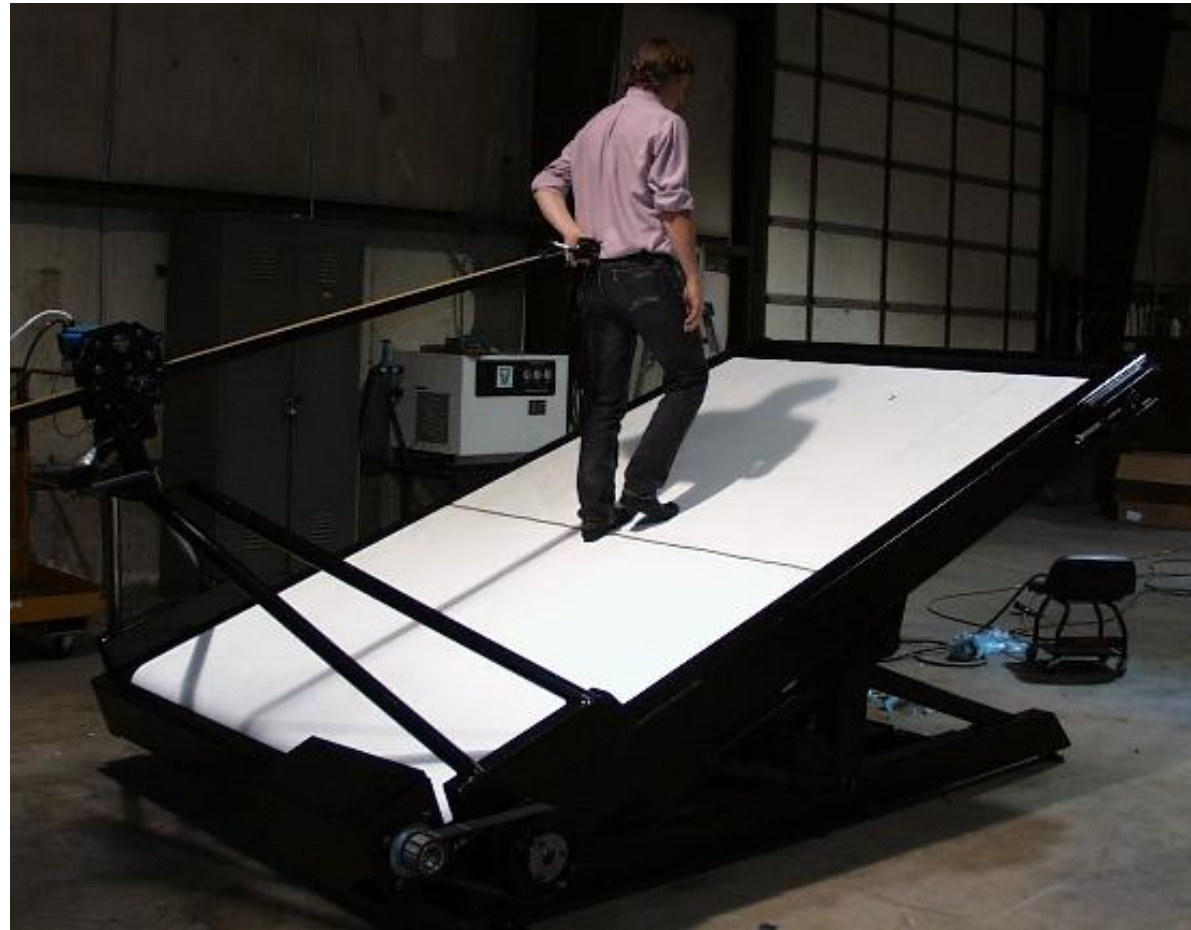
video

John Hollerbach (University of Utah)  
on KSL Channel 5 TV, April 2008





# Sarcos Treadport



platform has a moderate tilting capability (slow)  
gravity emulation by a force applied through the tether

# 1D treadmill platforms



linear

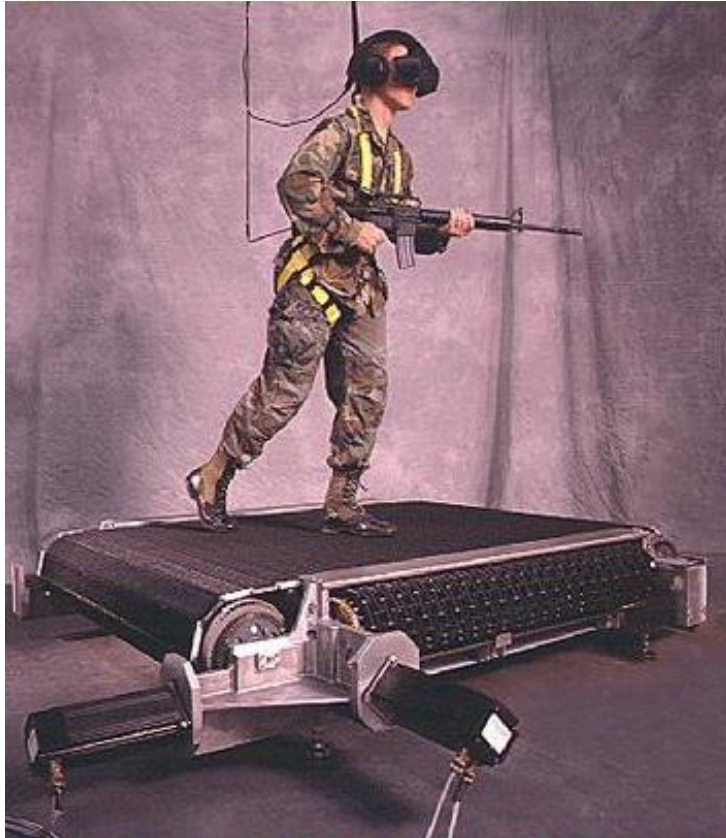


circular



Max Plank Institute, Tübingen

## 2D planar treadmill platforms



Omni-Directional  
Treadmill (D. Carmein)



Iwata's Torus  
Treadmill

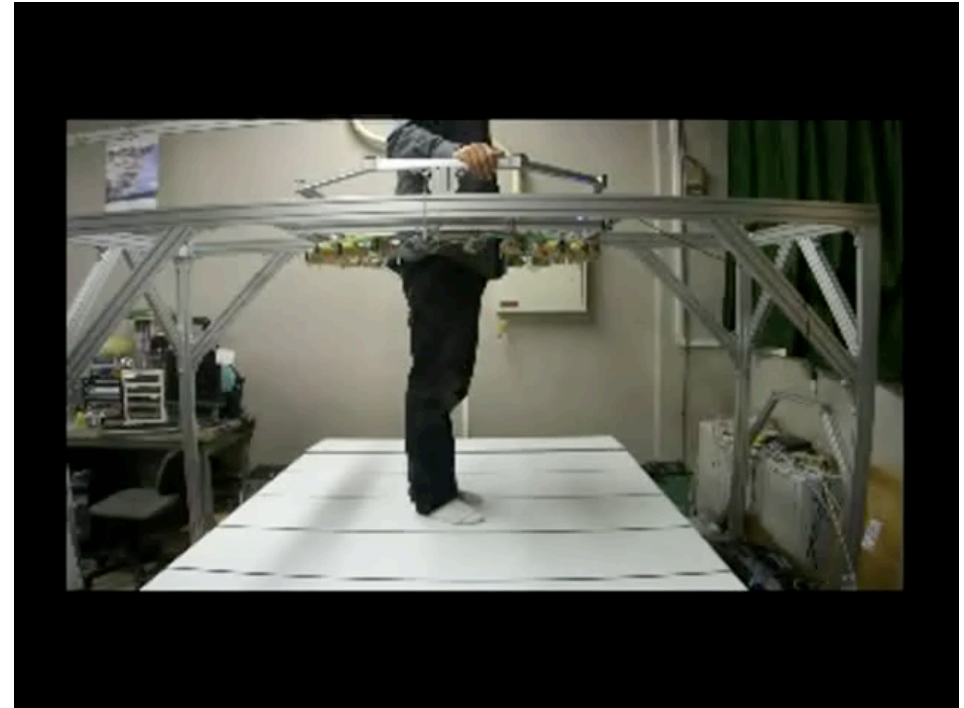


# Torus treadmill

video



video



new version (2011)

H. Iwata (University of Tsukuba)



# Omni-Directional Treadmill (ODT)

video

video



May 2005

May 2006

Virtual Space Devices, Inc. (David Carmein)



## 2D planar treadmill platforms



CyberWalk platform (the largest in the world!)



## 2D locomotion interfaces without actuation



Virtusphere  
(R. Latypov)

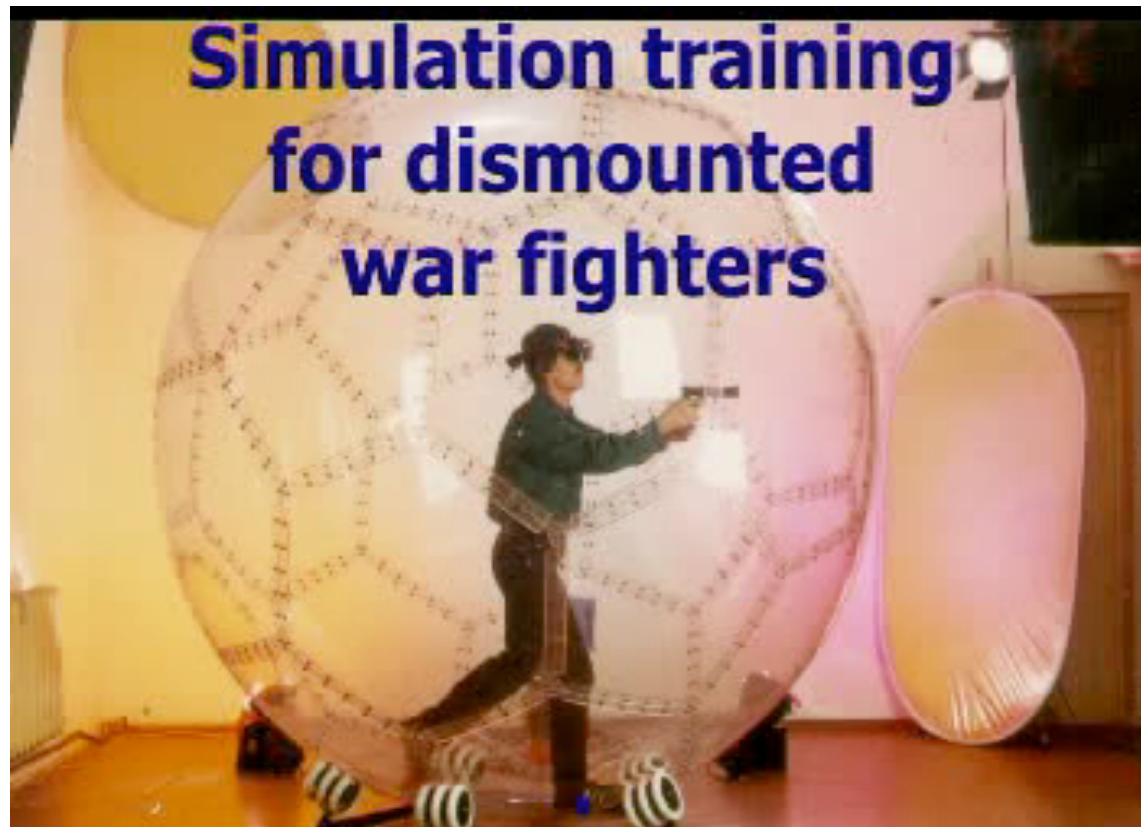


Cybersphere  
(University of Warwick)

both are **non-actuated** devices, with curved walking surface



# Virtual Sphere



video

<http://www.virtusphere.com>





# Cyberith Virtualizer

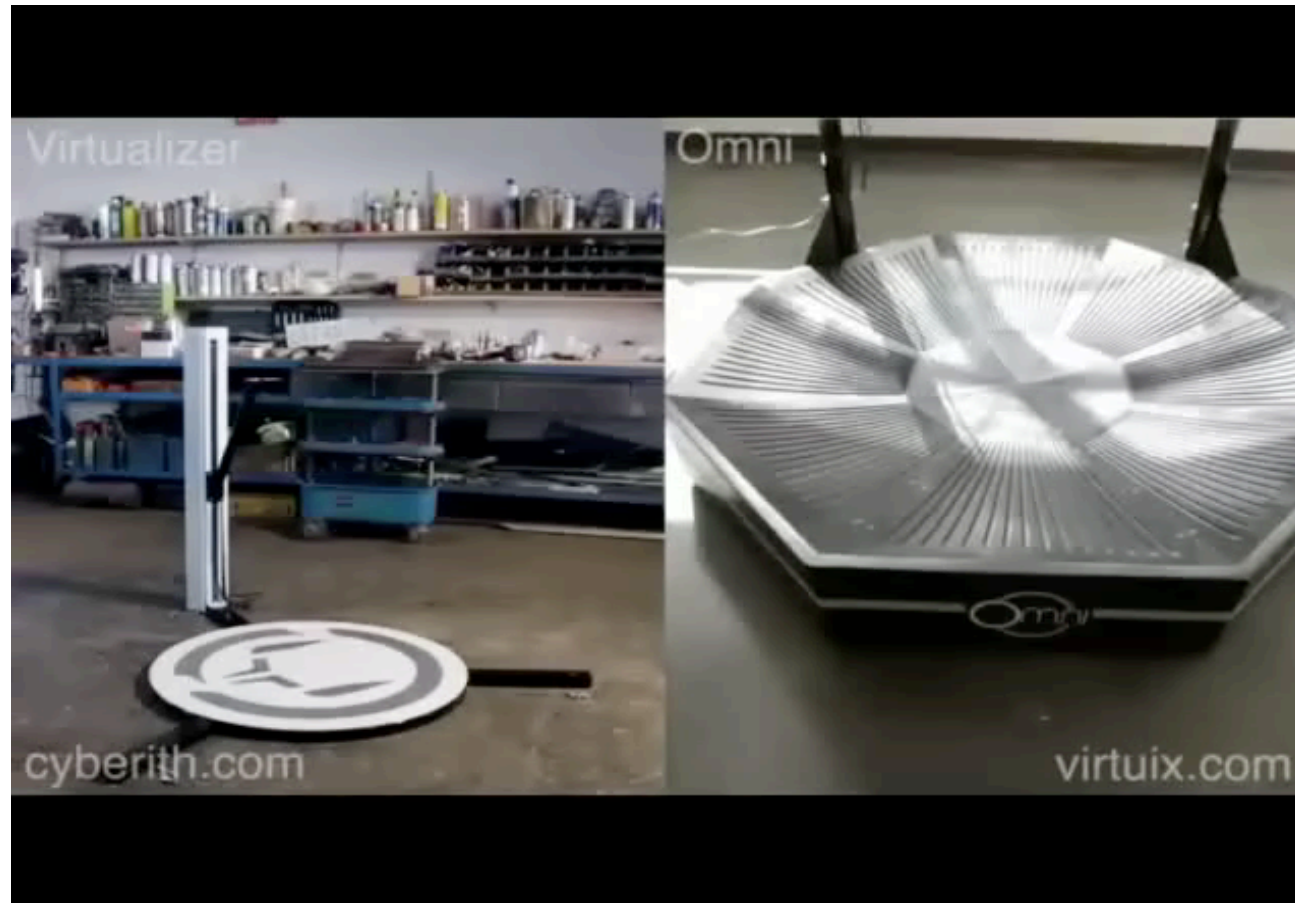


video

arrived in **June 2016** at the **DIAG Robotics Lab**



# Cyberith Virtualizer vs. Virtuix Omni



video

similar compact locomotion platforms (**sensed**, but **not** actuated)  
to be used with other HMI/VR devices (Oculus RIFT, Kinect, video games, ...)

# Cyberith platform and remote control (telepresence)

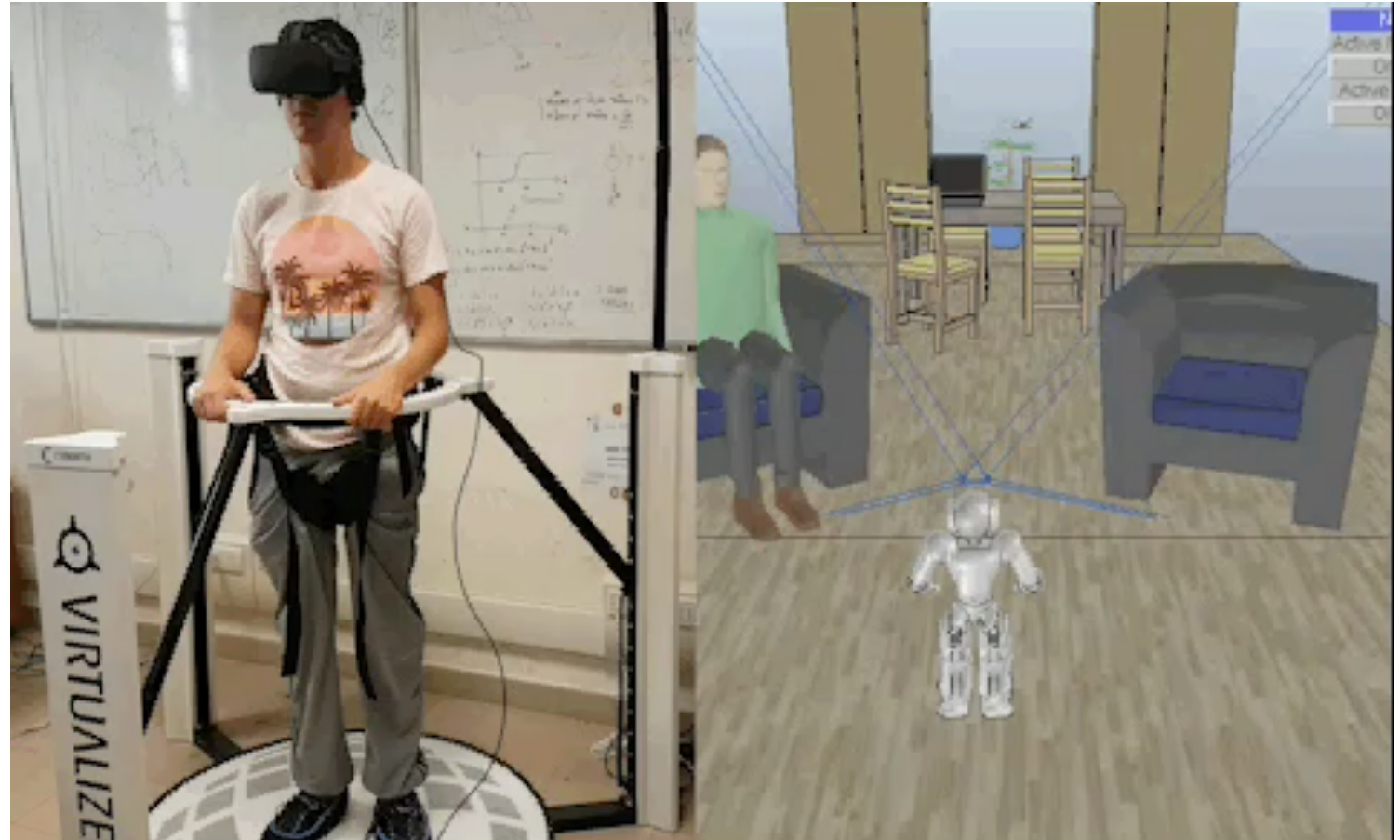


video



passive but  
sensorized!

Oculus Rift HMD



NAO humanoid (virtual in VREP, real in the lab)

video

# Infinadeck



video

compact **actuated**  
omnidirectional  
locomotion platform  
(with body sustain)

presented at the  
Consumer Electronic Show  
in Las Vegas (CES 2016)

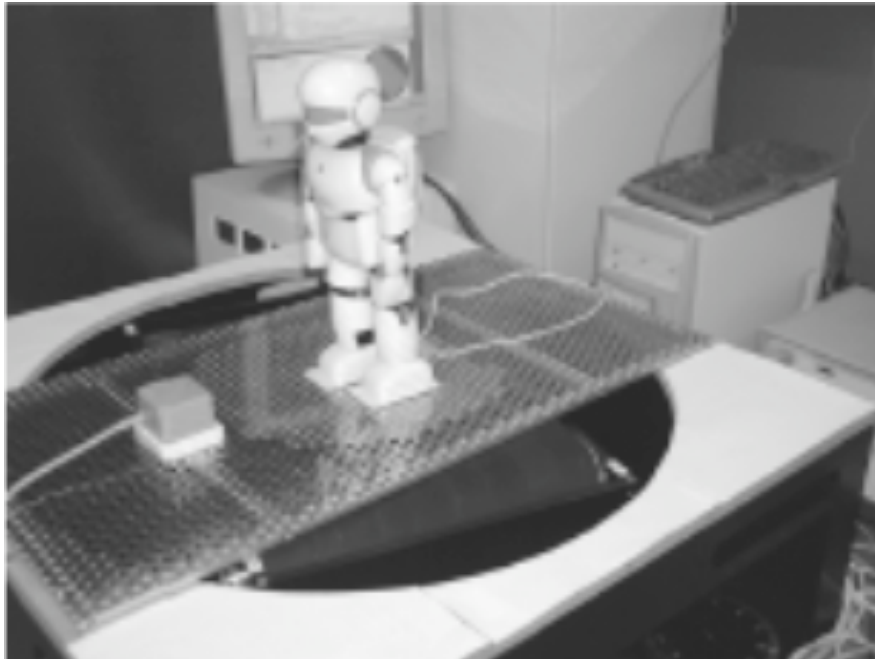


video

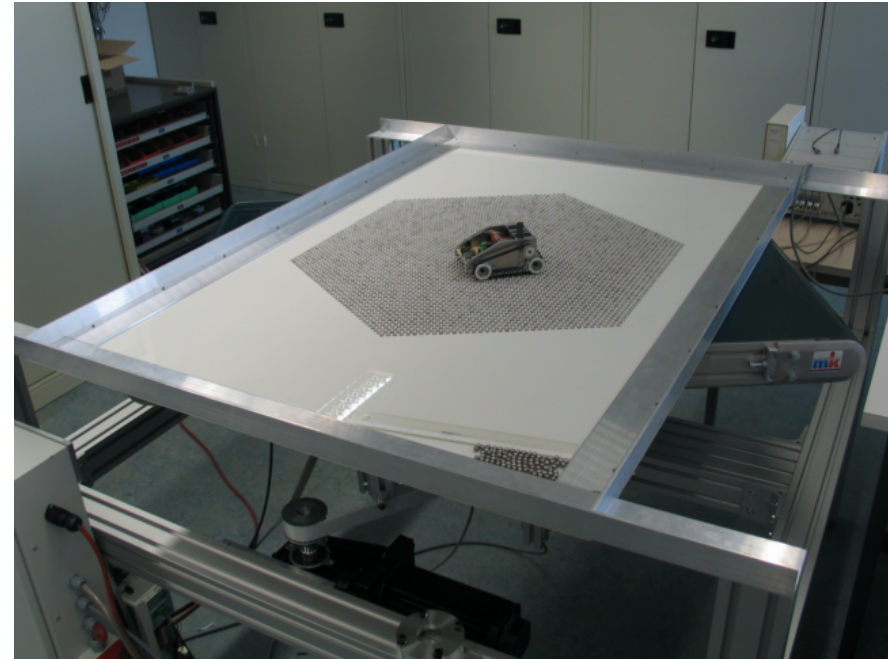


...in a CAVE environment

## Other 2D locomotion interfaces



BAT Ball Array Treadmill  
(Kogakuin University)



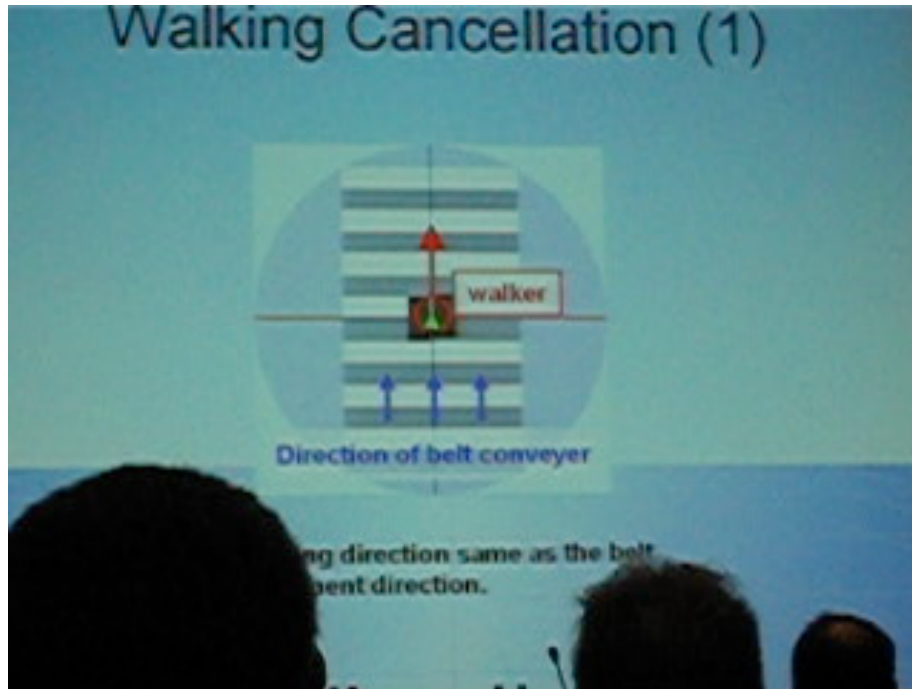
CyberCarpet



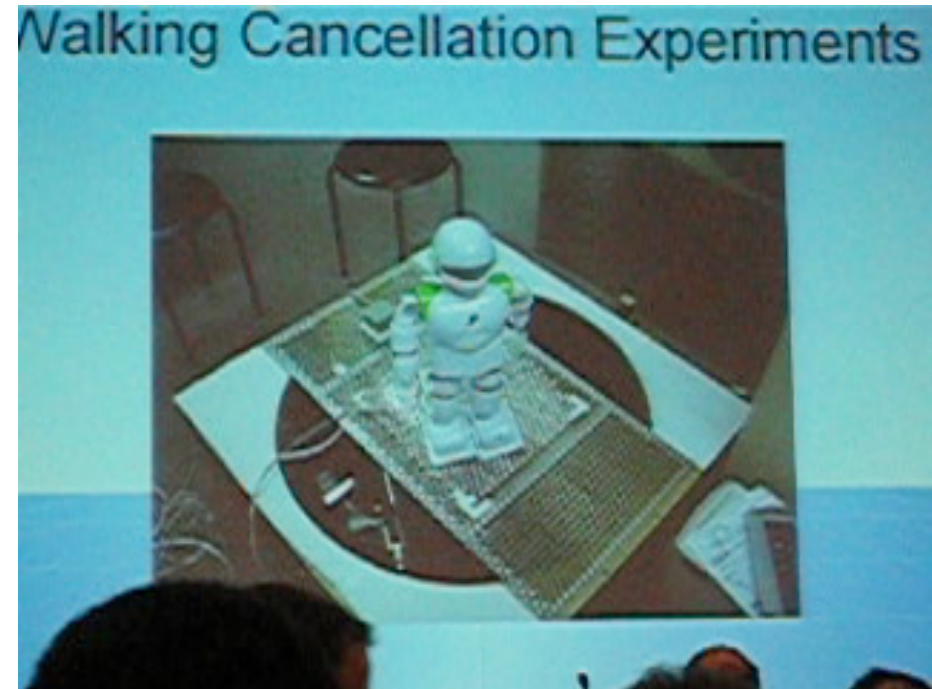
**nonlinear** couplings between rotation and translation

# BAT Ball Array Treadmill

video



video



Simulation

Experiment

N. Akira (KU), W. Kohei (KU), K. Masato (Fujitsu Social Science Lab),  
S. Ryo (KU), I. Minoru (KU)

IEEE Virtual Reality Conference (VR 2005), Bonn

# Moving bases for locomotion



CirculaFloor



Powered Shoes

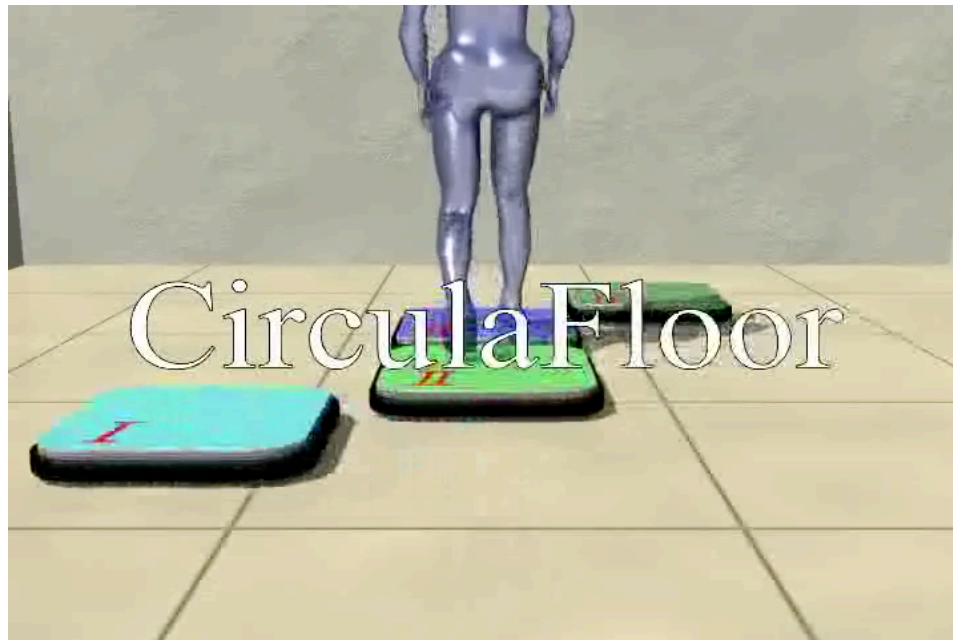
VR Lab, University of Tsukuba (Hiroo Iwata)

general objective is to cancel walker's motion...



# CirculaFloor

video



video



University of Tsukuba  
ACM SIGGRAPH 2004 Conference, Los Angeles





# Powered Shoes



video

University of Tsukuba  
ACM SIGGRAPH 2006 Conference, Boston

## Other commercial motion interfaces ...



Nintendo Wii Fitness



Microsoft Kinect

what are their apparent limitations? and advantages?



# Bibliography - 1

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