

# Hot Science Cool Talks

UT Environmental Science Institute

# 99

## *Humanoids of Our Future*

**Dr. Luis Sentis**  
**December 4, 2015**

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**Hot Science** Cool Talks

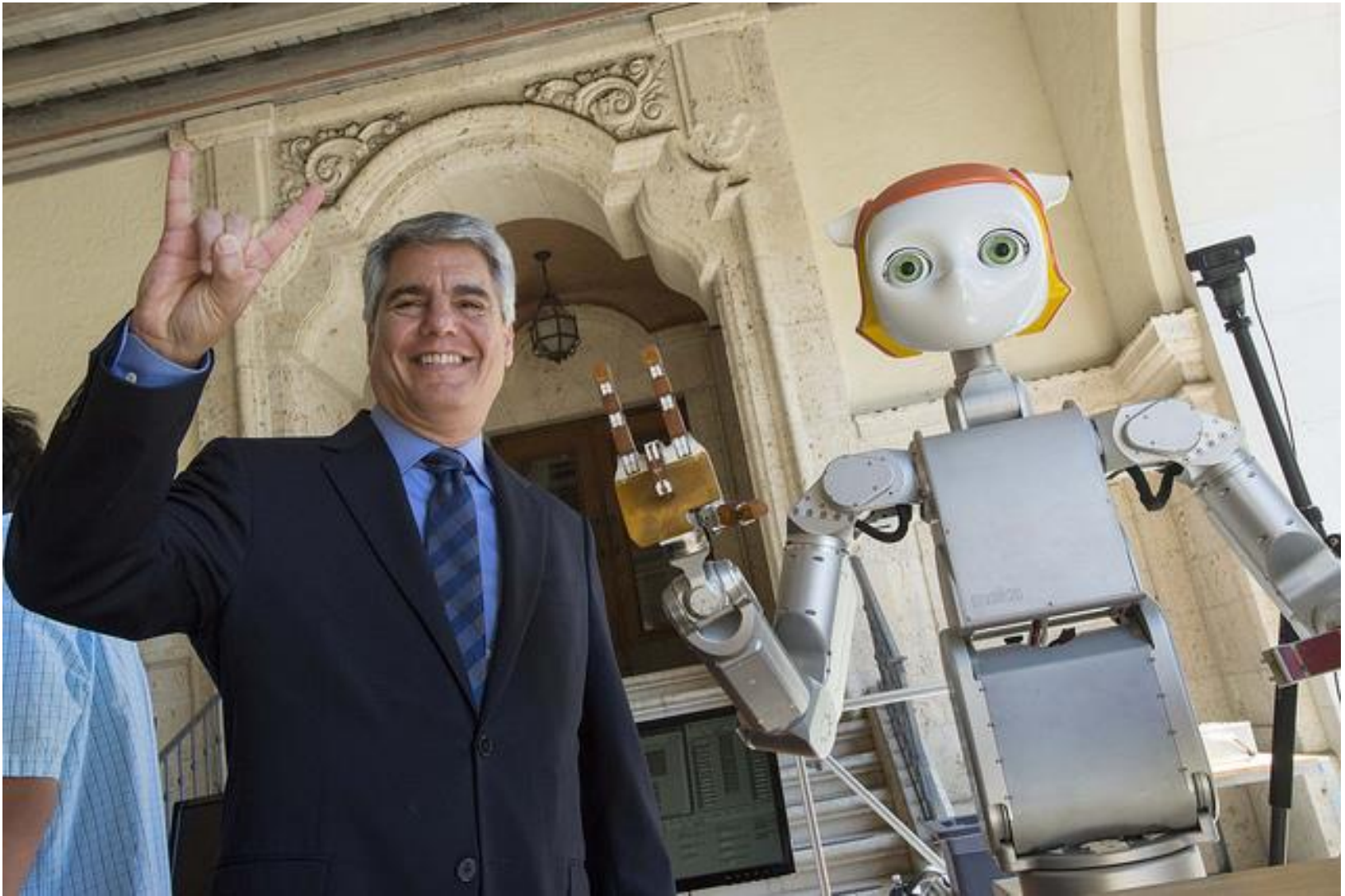
# ***HUMANOIDS OF THE FUTURE***

**Luis Sentis**

**Assistant Professor at UT Austin**

**Head of the Human-Centered Robotics Lab**

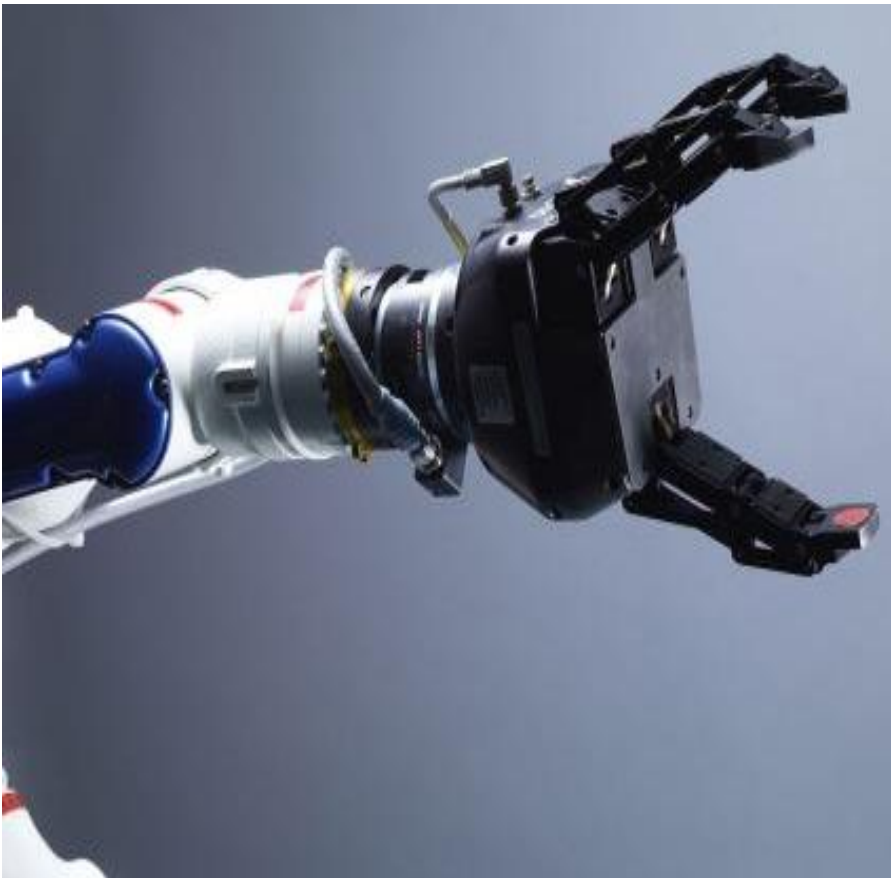
**Scientific Advisor of Apptronik, Inc.**



**Why do we build humanoid robots?**

# Assessment of Disruptive Technologies by 2025 (Global Trends)

According to the *National Intelligence Council*, six civil technologies offer the potential to enhance or degrade US power over the next fifteen years:



## **Biogerontechnology**

Energy Storage Materials

Biofuels & Bio-Based Chemicals

Clean Coal Technologies

## **Service Robotics**

The Internet of Things



# Biogerontechnology and Assistive Technologies (source: Fatronik 2007)

## Age    %disabled

60	13%
70	22%
80	42%
90	65%





*Blue Sky Studios Movie Robots*

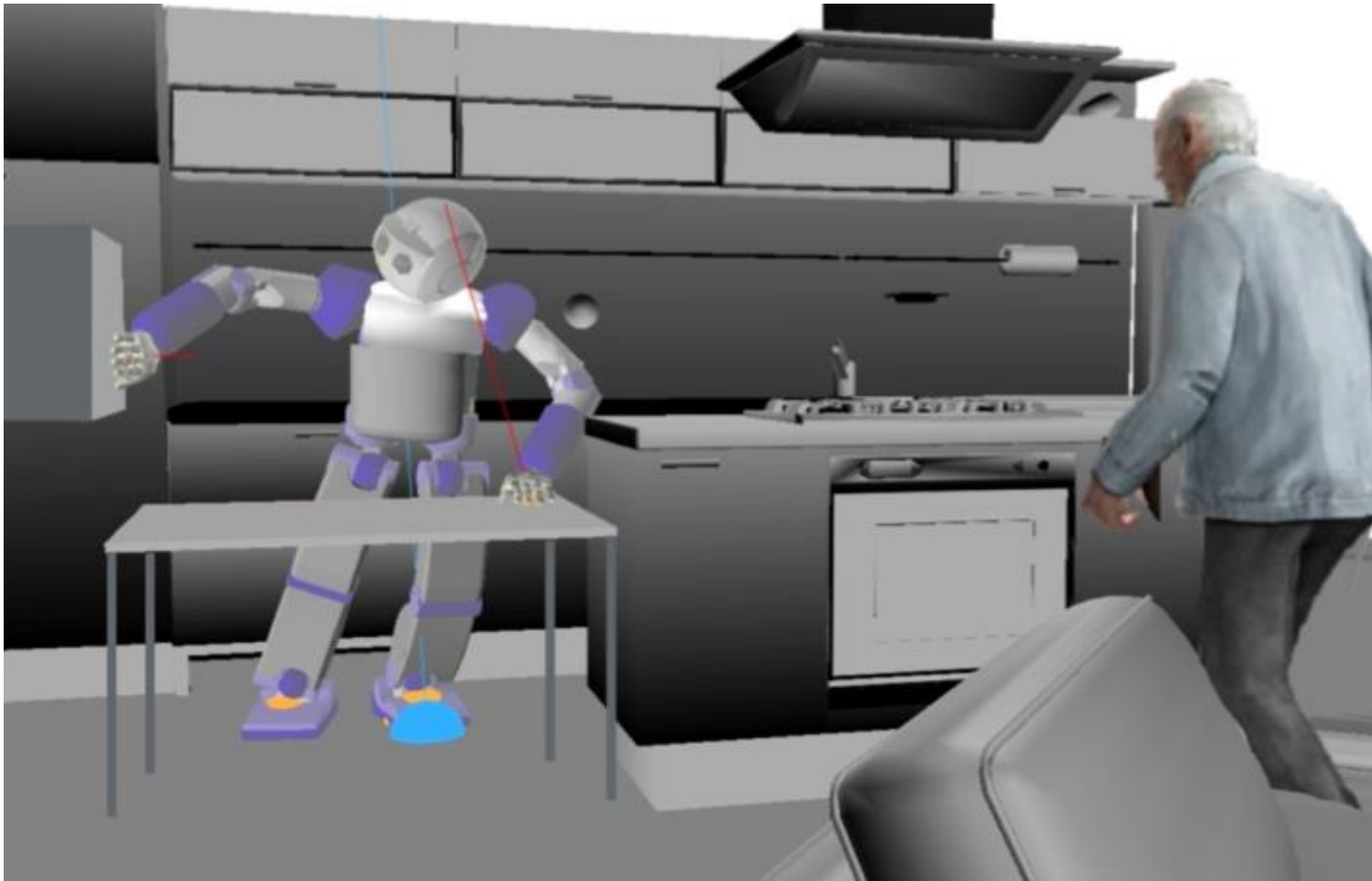
Human Centered Robotics:  
The study of machines and  
robotic systems...

... with high mobility to assist,  
augment, or represent  
humans...

... in any way that will  
increase social comfort,  
productivity, security and  
health.

**What can humanoid robots do?**  
***How do robots interact with humans?***

# Home Assistance Robots



Concept art 2009  
by Luis Sentis

# Home Assistance Robots





# Legged Robots in the Wild

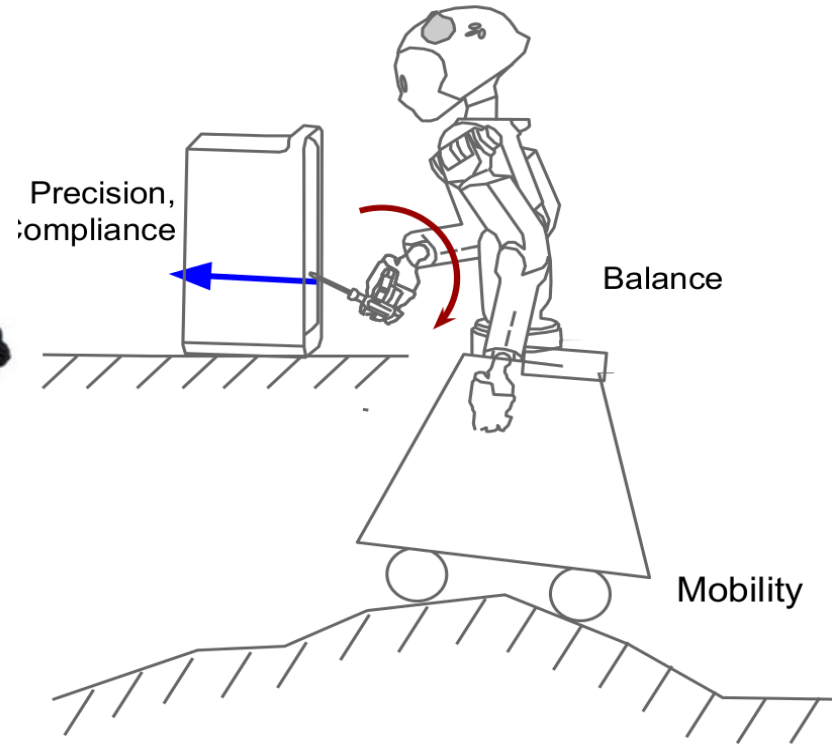


Concept art 2010  
by The Human Centered Robotics Lab and ZPGraphic

# Rough Terrain Manipulation Systems



Vecna, Inc. 2011



Concept art 2012

# Human-Robot Interaction with the Navy and NASA



**Navy: Vessel firefighting**



**NASA: Martian operations**

Concept art 2014

by The Human Centered Robotics Lab and ZPGraphic

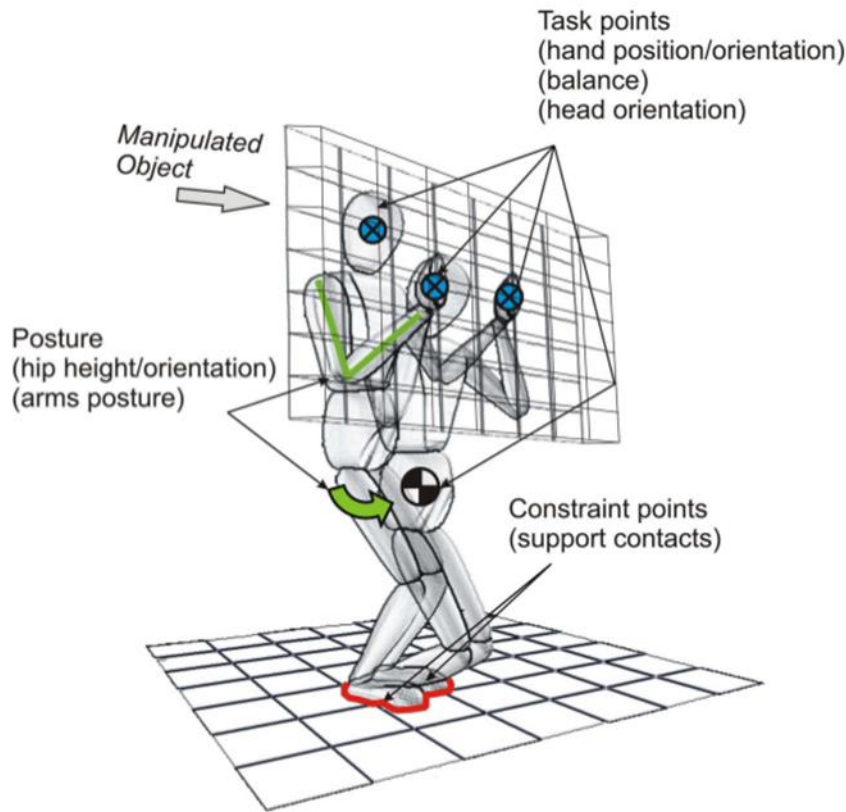


# Robots Safely Colliding with Humans



Source images from Shutterstock.com. Composite image by ZP Graphic.

Concept art 2015  
by The Human Centered Robotics Lab and ZPGraphic



$$A_1 \leftarrow A \quad \text{and} \quad b_1 \leftarrow b$$

for  $i = 1 : n$  do

$$\text{minimize}_{\mathcal{X}} \quad \pi_i = \|E_i \mathcal{X} - u_i\|^2$$

$$\text{subject to} \quad A_i \mathcal{X} = b_i$$

$$G \mathcal{X} \preceq h$$

$$A_{i+1} \leftarrow [A_i^T \ E_i^T]^T$$

$$b_{i+1} \leftarrow [b_i^T \ E_i \mathcal{X}^T]^T$$

end

**How do robots mimic humans?  
(Or, why you should do  
your math homework.)**





Division 341 –  
Cognitive Science &  
Human Robot  
Interaction Program



Concept art

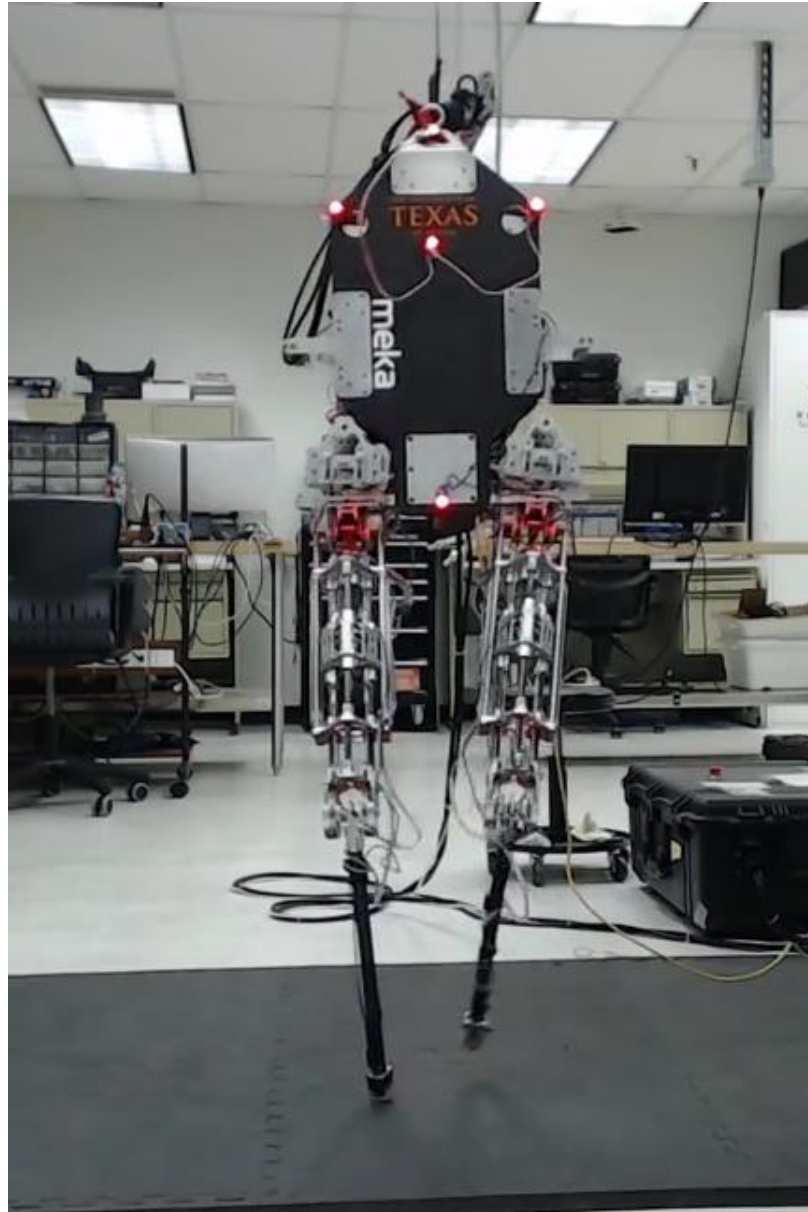
# Legged Mobility: What's missing?

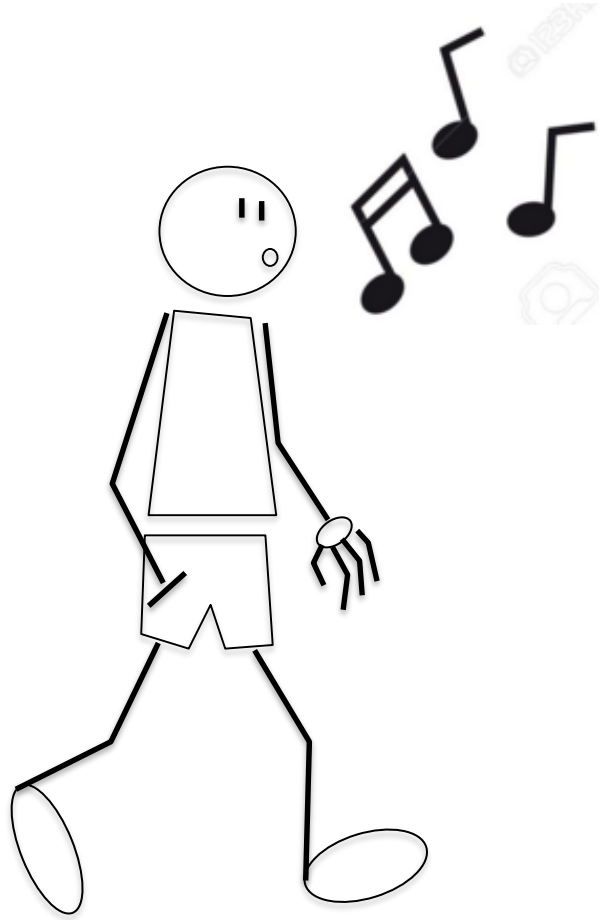
- We lack a basic understanding of general agility.
- We lack a hardware platform to experiment on general agile behaviors.
- We lack realtime plug and play software for humanoid robots.  
*(There's no "apps" for this.)*

# Scientific Frontiers on Agility



# Research Biped Robot

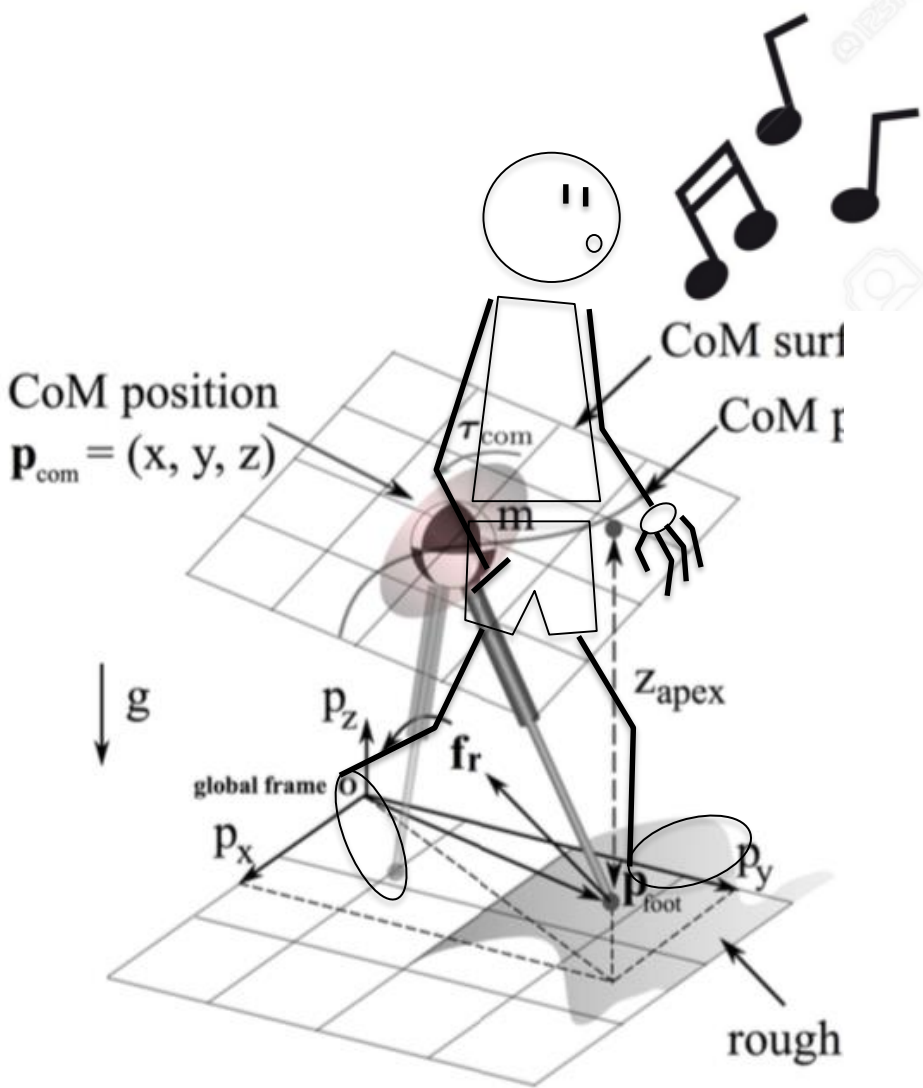


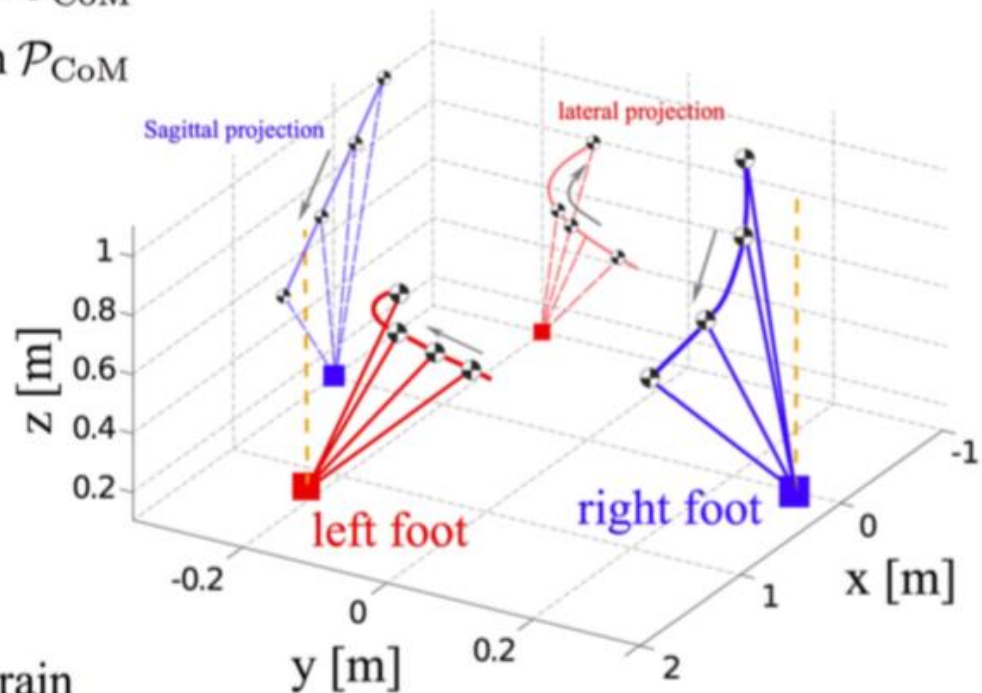
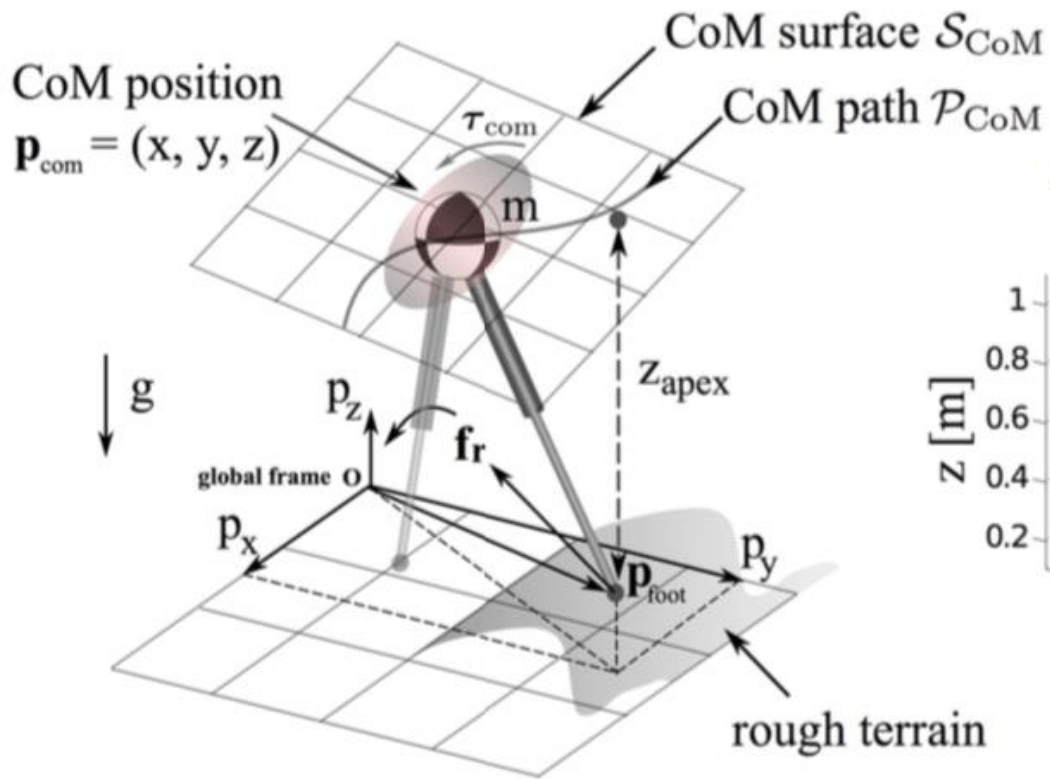


# Human Motion Analysis using Inverted Pendulum Dynamics



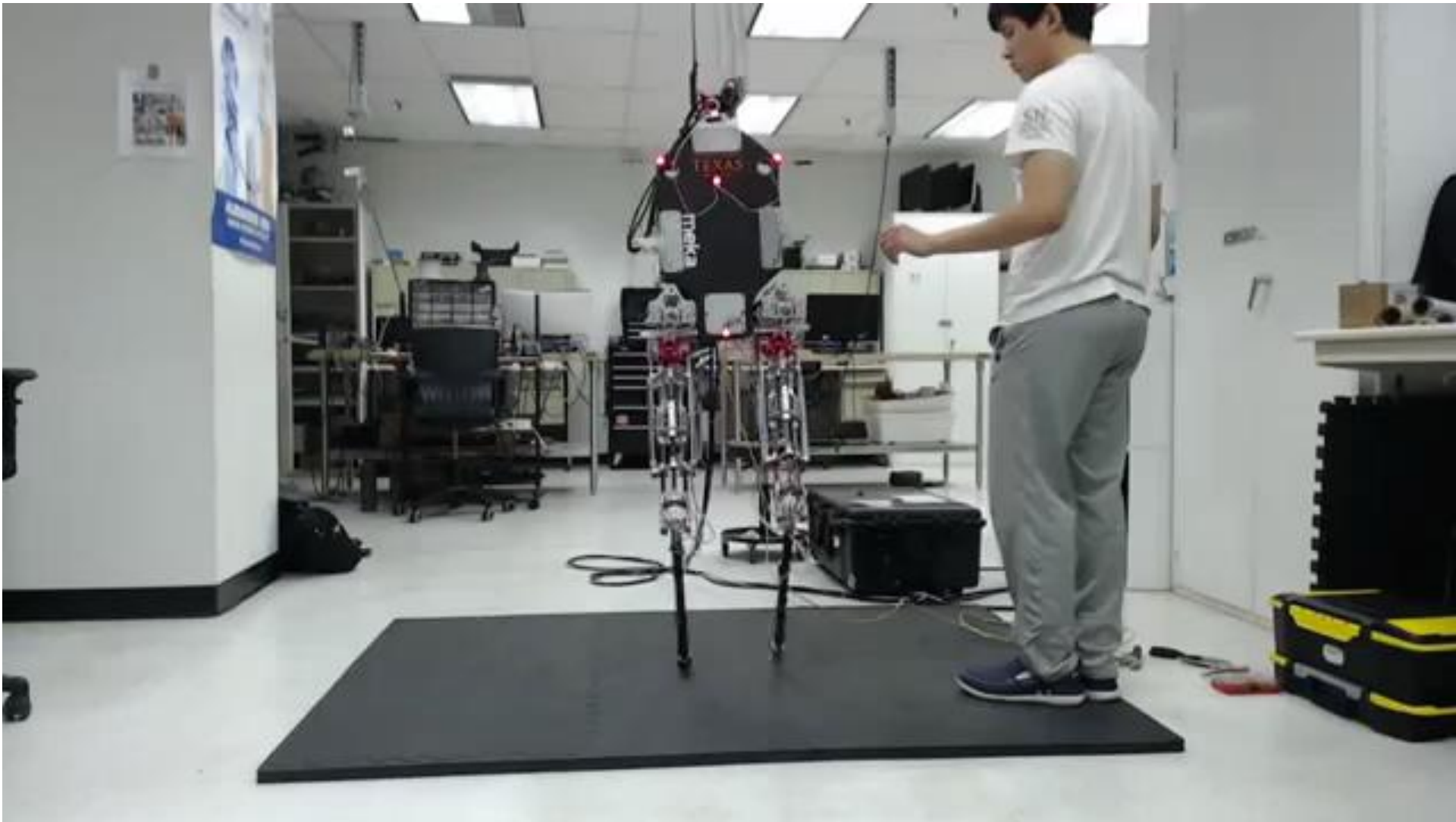
# (Cont'd)





$$\ddot{x} = \frac{g + \frac{d^2 z}{dx^2} \dot{x}^2}{z - (x - x_p) \frac{dz}{dx}} (x - x_p)$$

# Foot Placement Planner



# Where is the robot, seriously?



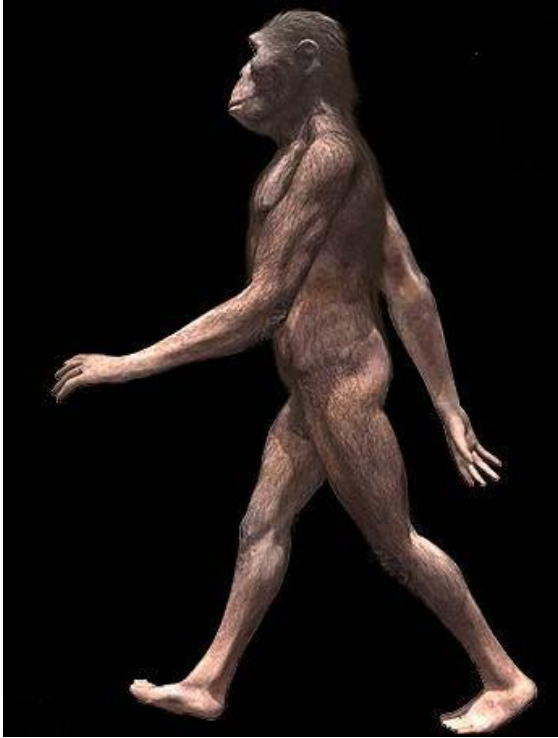
Inertial Measurement Unit

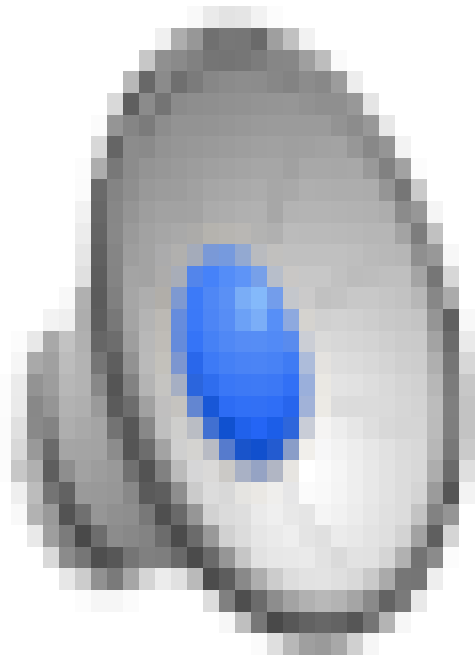
# Motion Capture (Cool!)





# Complexity of primate motion



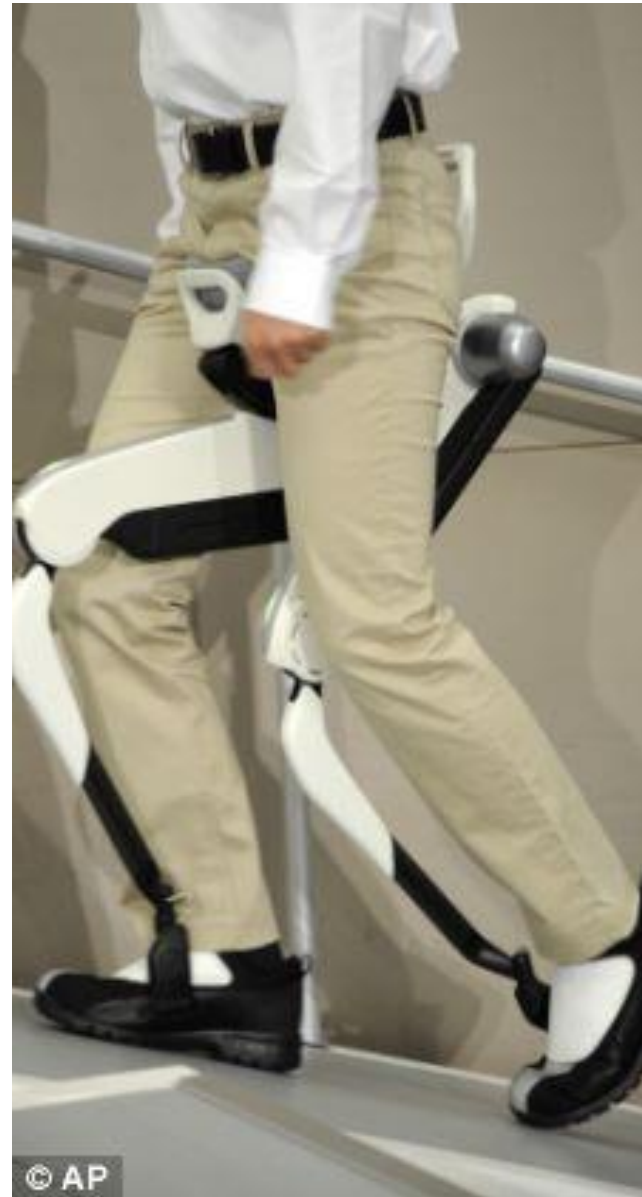


# Some Dreams... for the aging population and the young impaired

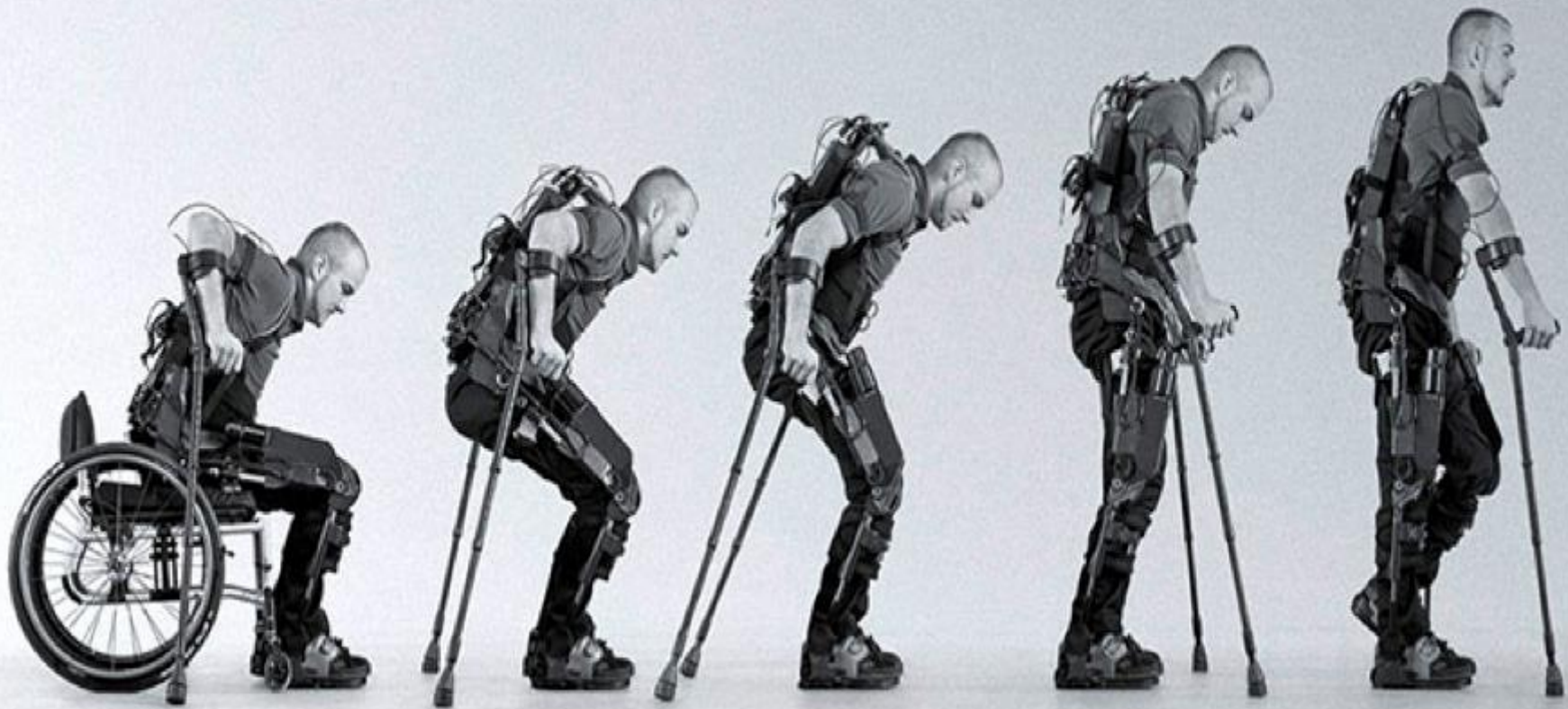




Honda



© AP



Ekso Bionics



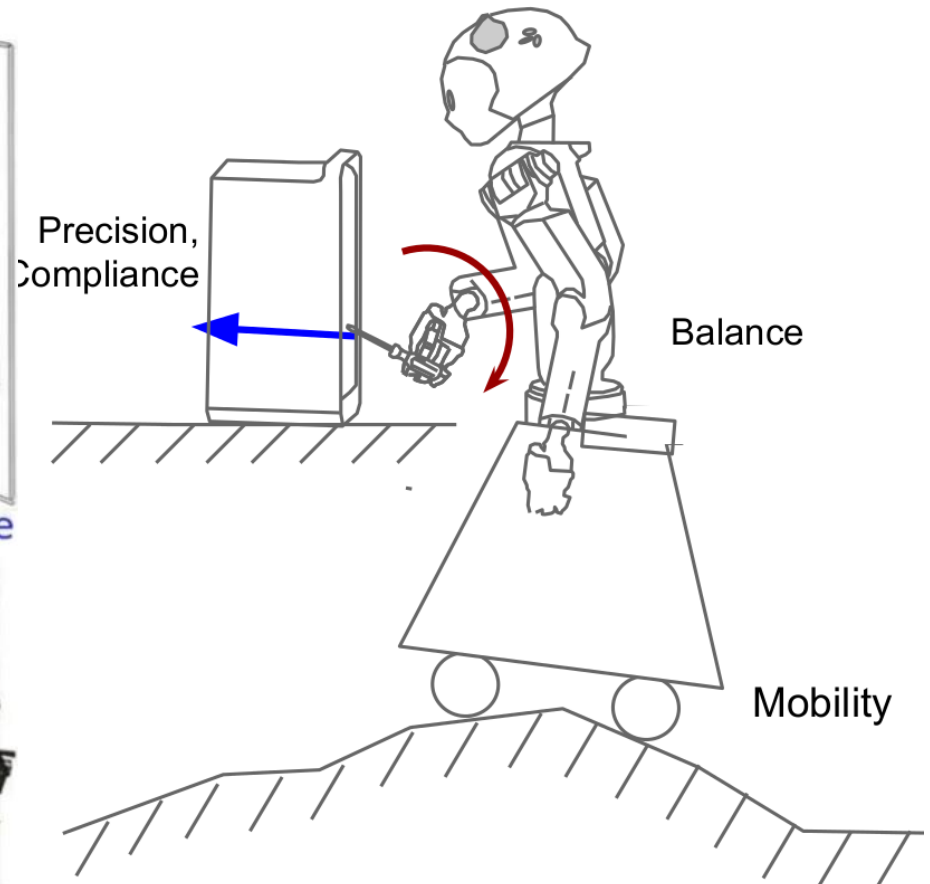
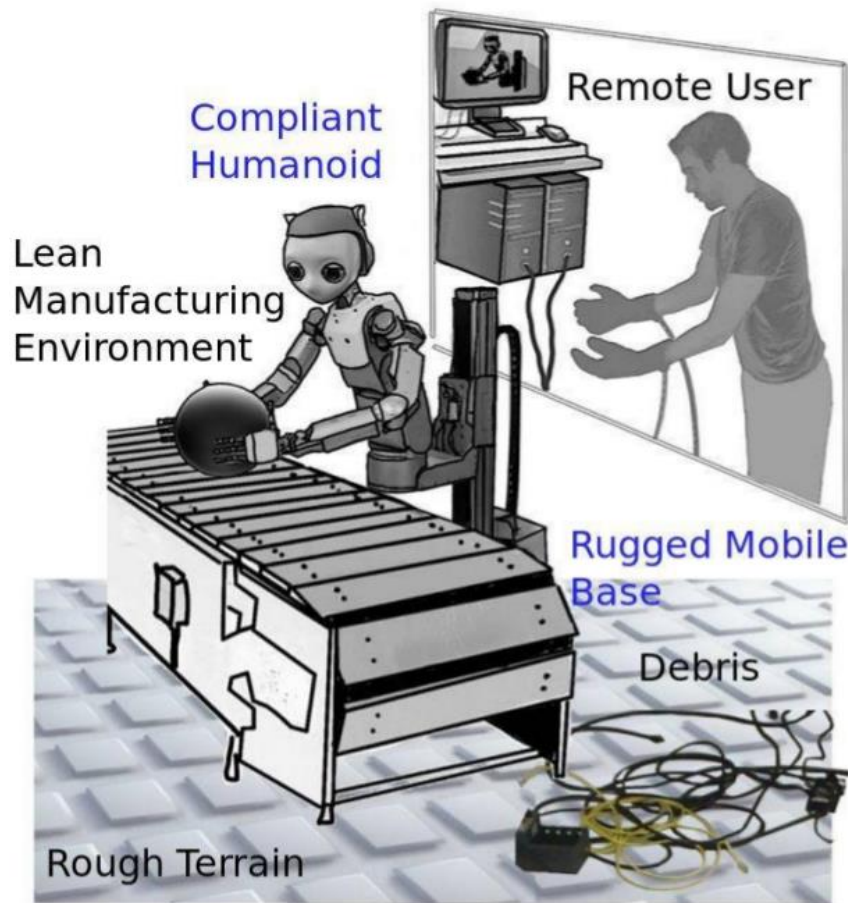


**What will humanoid robots  
in the future be like?**

# National Robotics Initiative



# Mobile robots for manufacturing





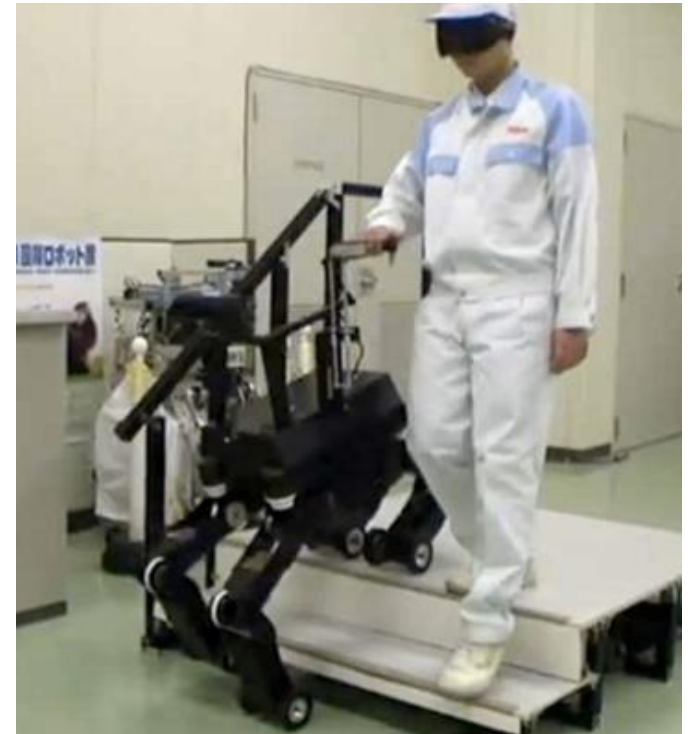
# Twists and Turns: Planetary Exploration for NASA



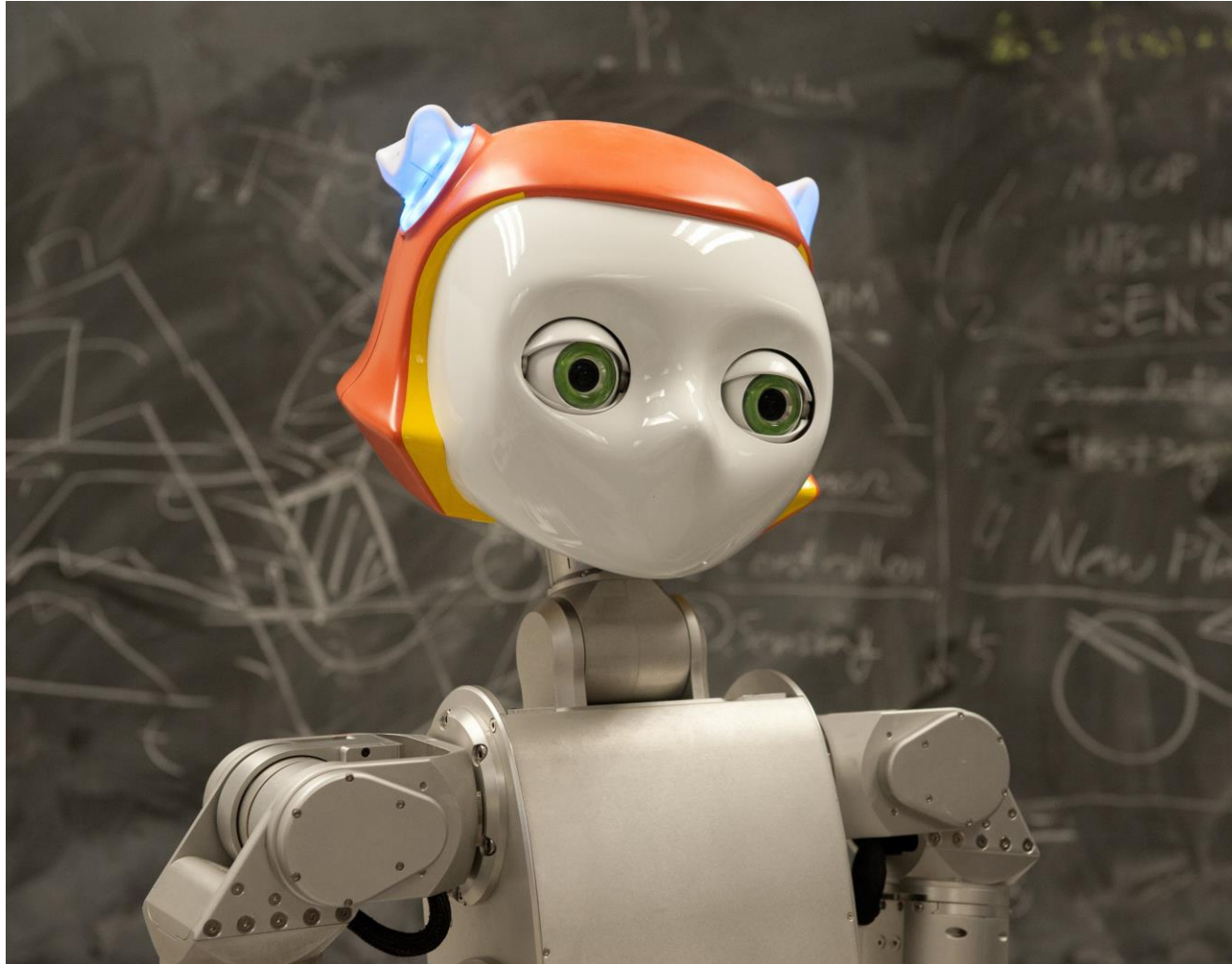


# Key Problems

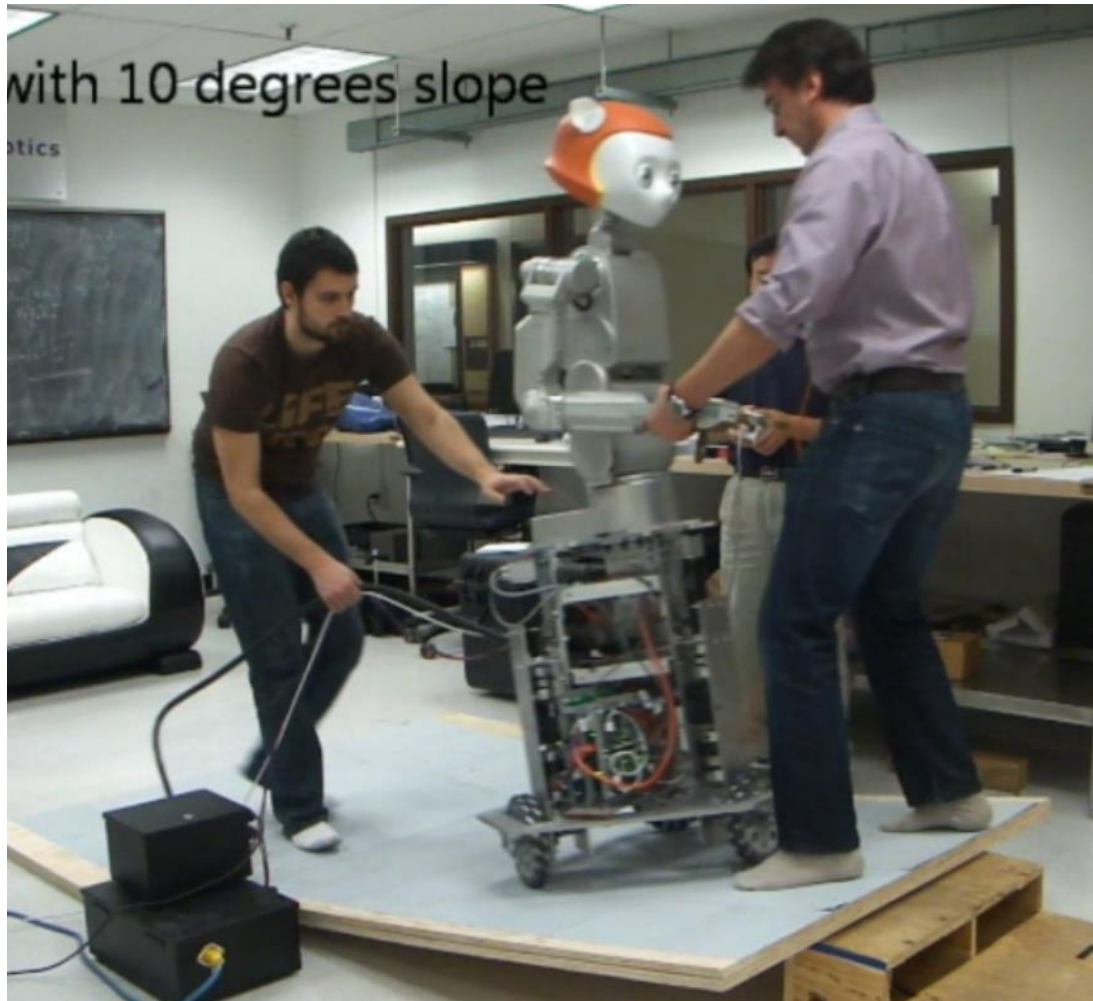
- How will robots interact with humans?
- How do we tell humanoid robots what to do?
- Will robots be able to do things as quickly as humans can?
- Will robots injure humans?



# Dreamer's origins and the UT Human Centered Robotics Lab

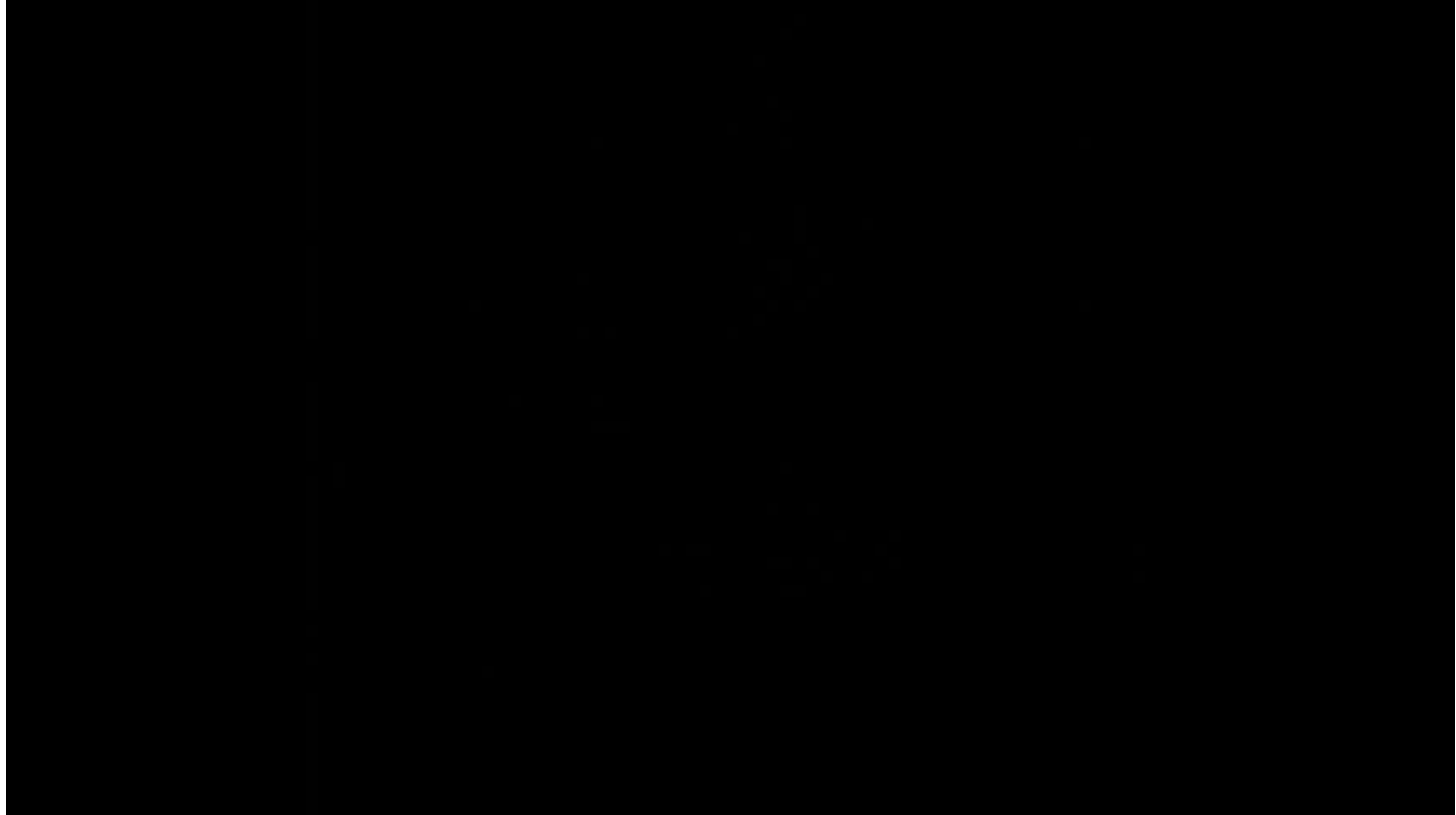


# Human-Robot Interaction at the core



[RSS 2012 Finalist Best Paper Award]  
[Autonomous Robots 2013]

**How does Dreamer move and interact with humans?**





# Experiments: Can robots collide safely with humans?

**Collisions**  
**using a Calibrated Testbed**

# Meanwhile, DARPA's Robotics Challenge Came In



## Inspiration and Goals



Man-Computer Symbiosis  
J. C. R. Licklider (head of DARPA IPTO 1962)  
IRE Transactions on Human Factors in Electronics,  
volume HFE-1, pages 4-11, March 1960

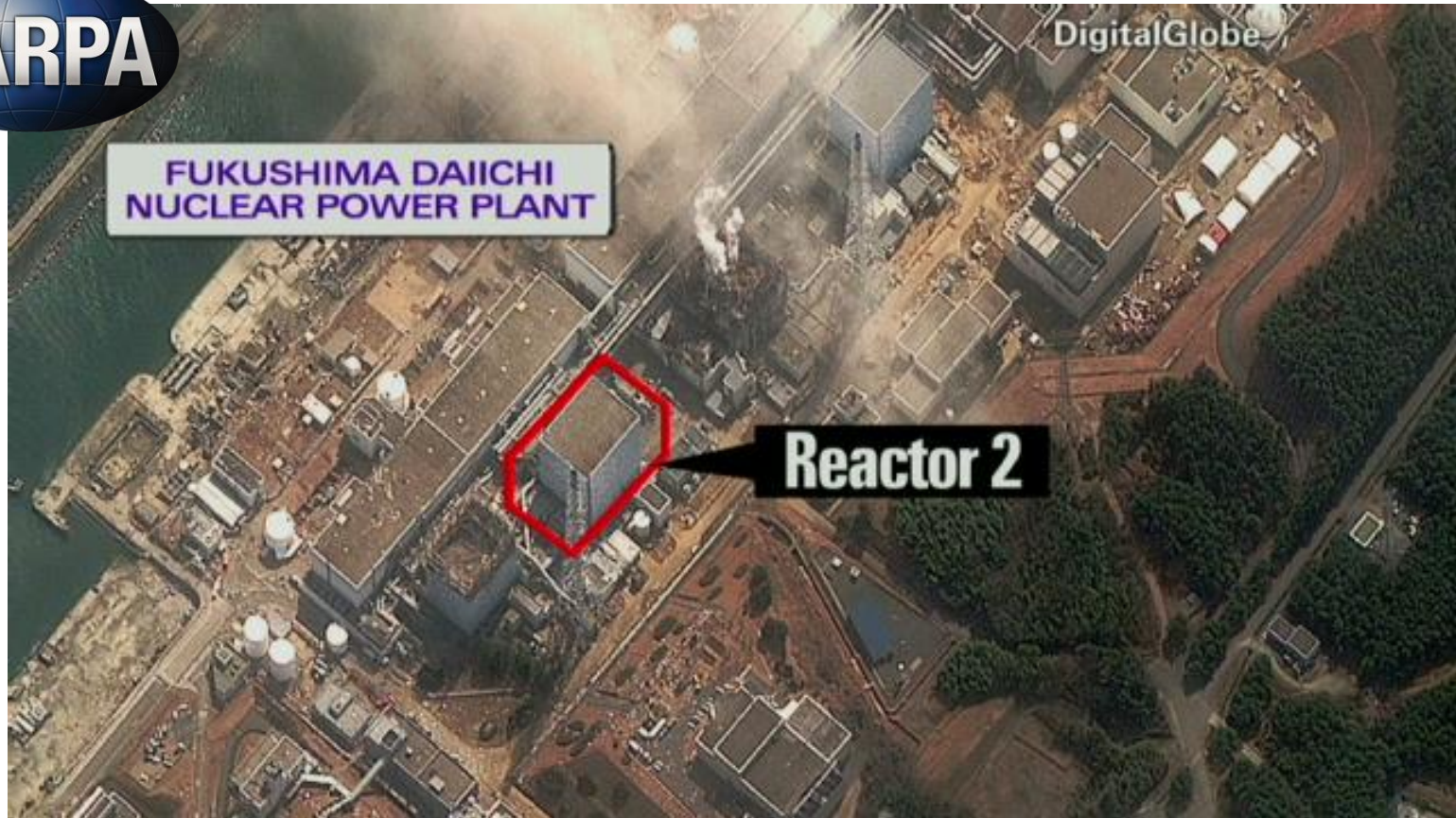


**Fukushima - 2011**

"... close study of the disaster's first 24 hours, before the cascade of failures carried reactor 1 beyond any hope of salvation, reveals clear inflection points where minor differences would have prevented events from spiraling out of control." *IEEE Spectrum*, November 2011 pg. 36.

1. Target disaster response in dangerous environments, and important DoD capability for HADR (Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief) missions
2. Advance supervised autonomy, mobility, manipulation, and energetic efficiency.
3. Catalyze the robotics industry by developing a validated, real-time, operator-interactive simulator.
4. Welcome a wide range of international contributors including traditional and non-traditional DARPA performers from a variety of fields.

# Meanwhile, DARPA's Robotics Challenge came in...



Robotics could have helped keep the situation from spiraling out of control.

# Our lab teamed up with NASA on Building Valkyrie





# Valkyrie can mimic humans

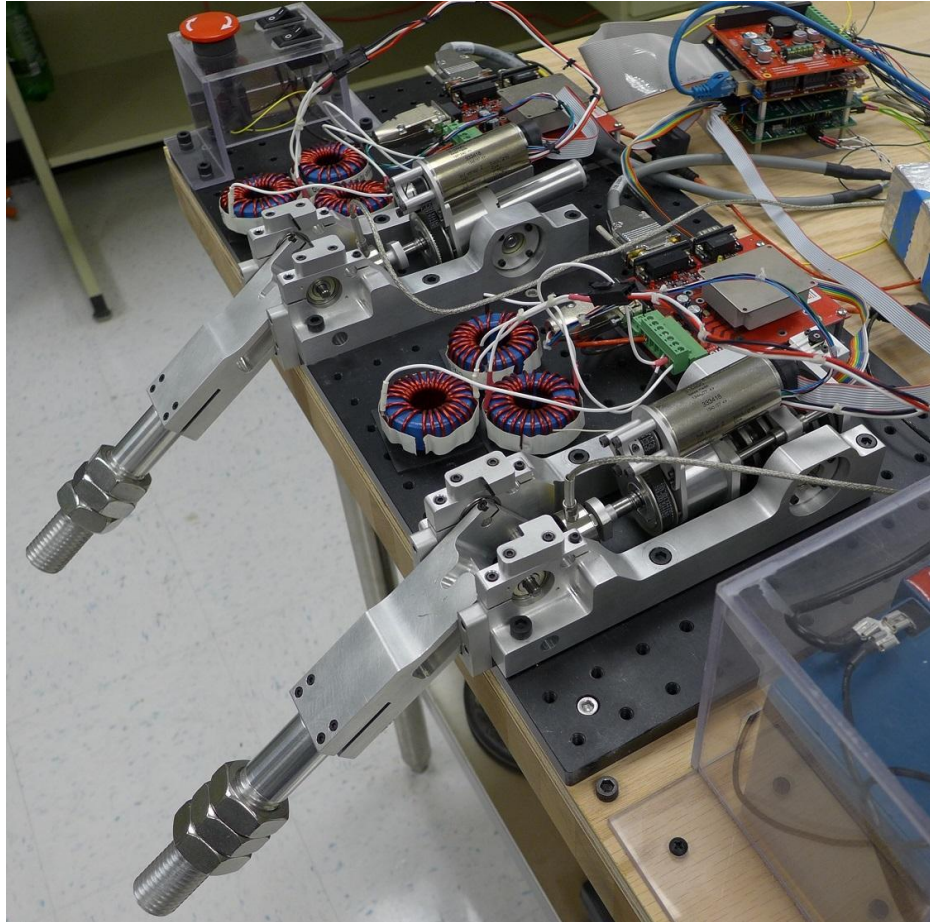




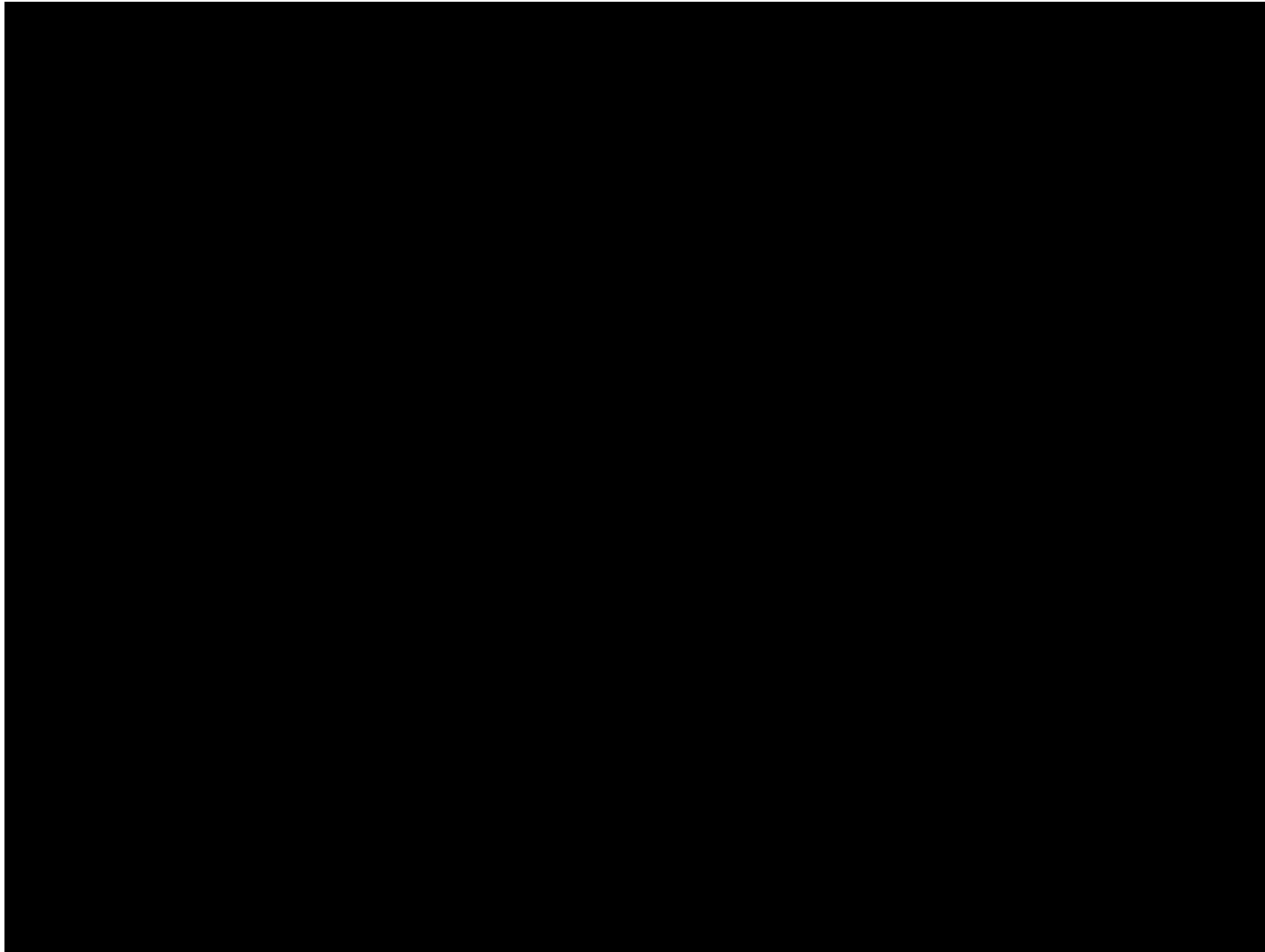
# Locked in the Apollo Lander Room



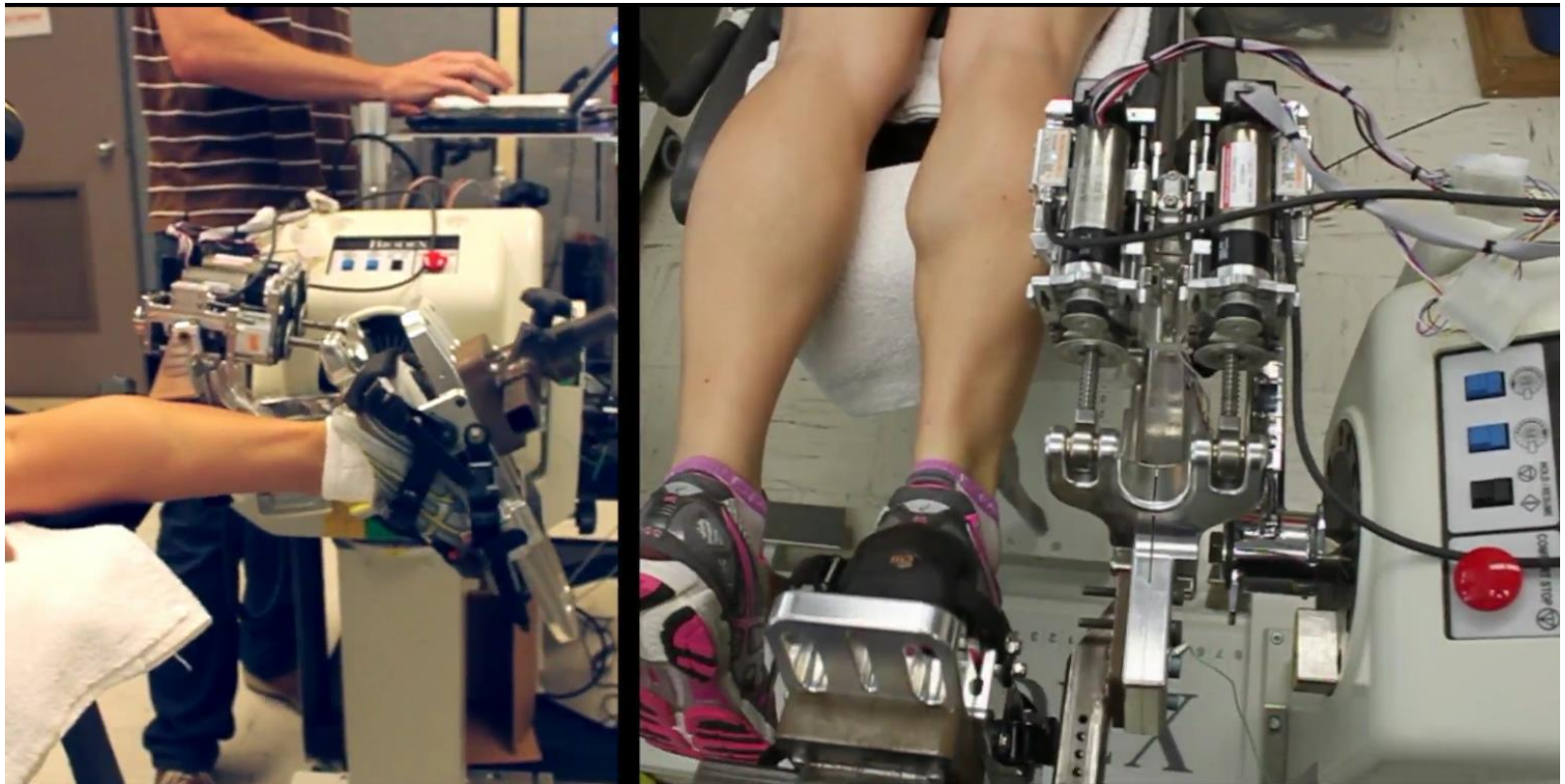
# Students Developed Mechanics



# Mechanics for Valkyrie



**... and went to places**



IHMC Rehabilitation System

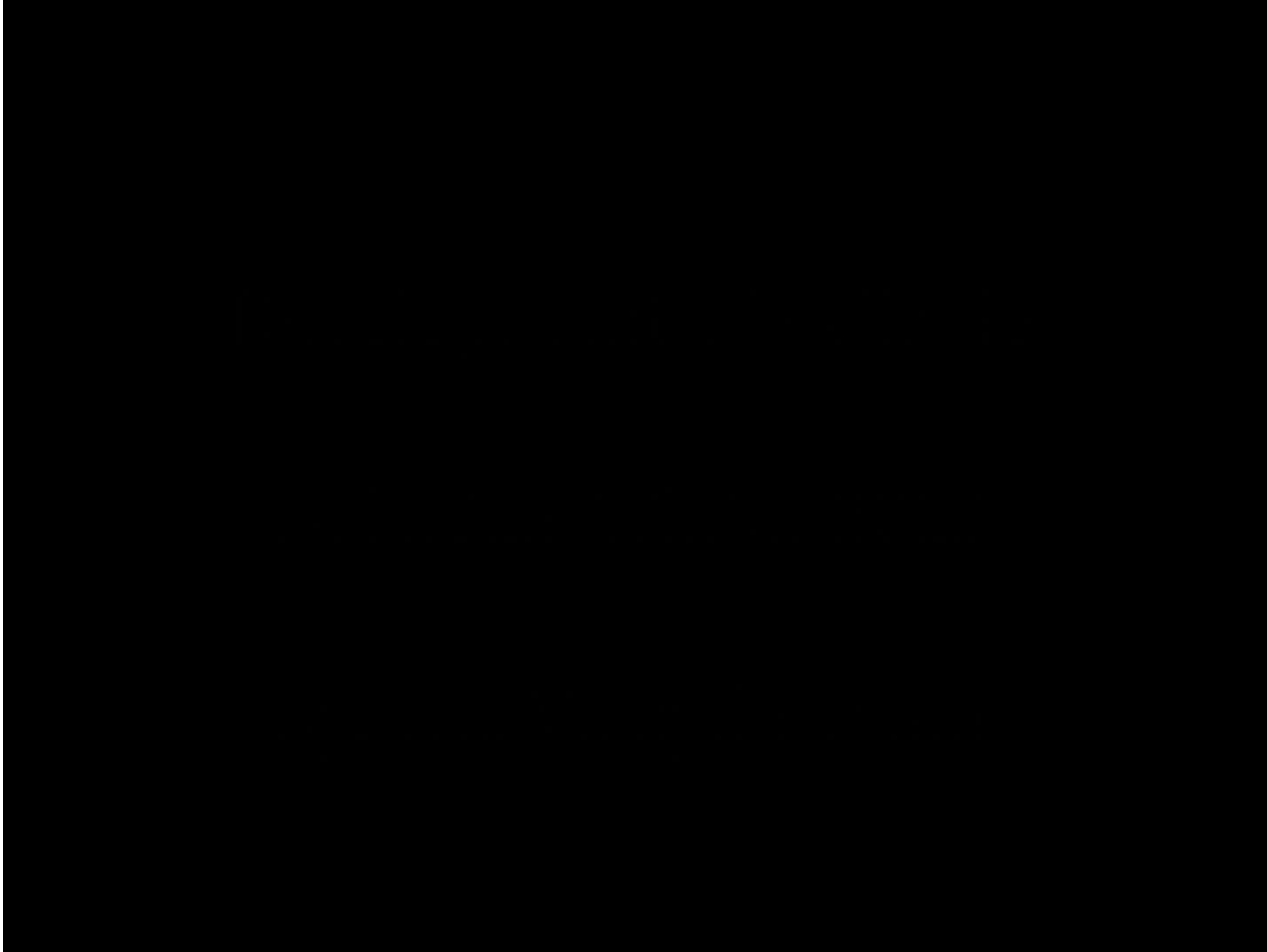


**... that  
taught us  
real-world  
needs**



IHMC/NASA X2 Mina Exo

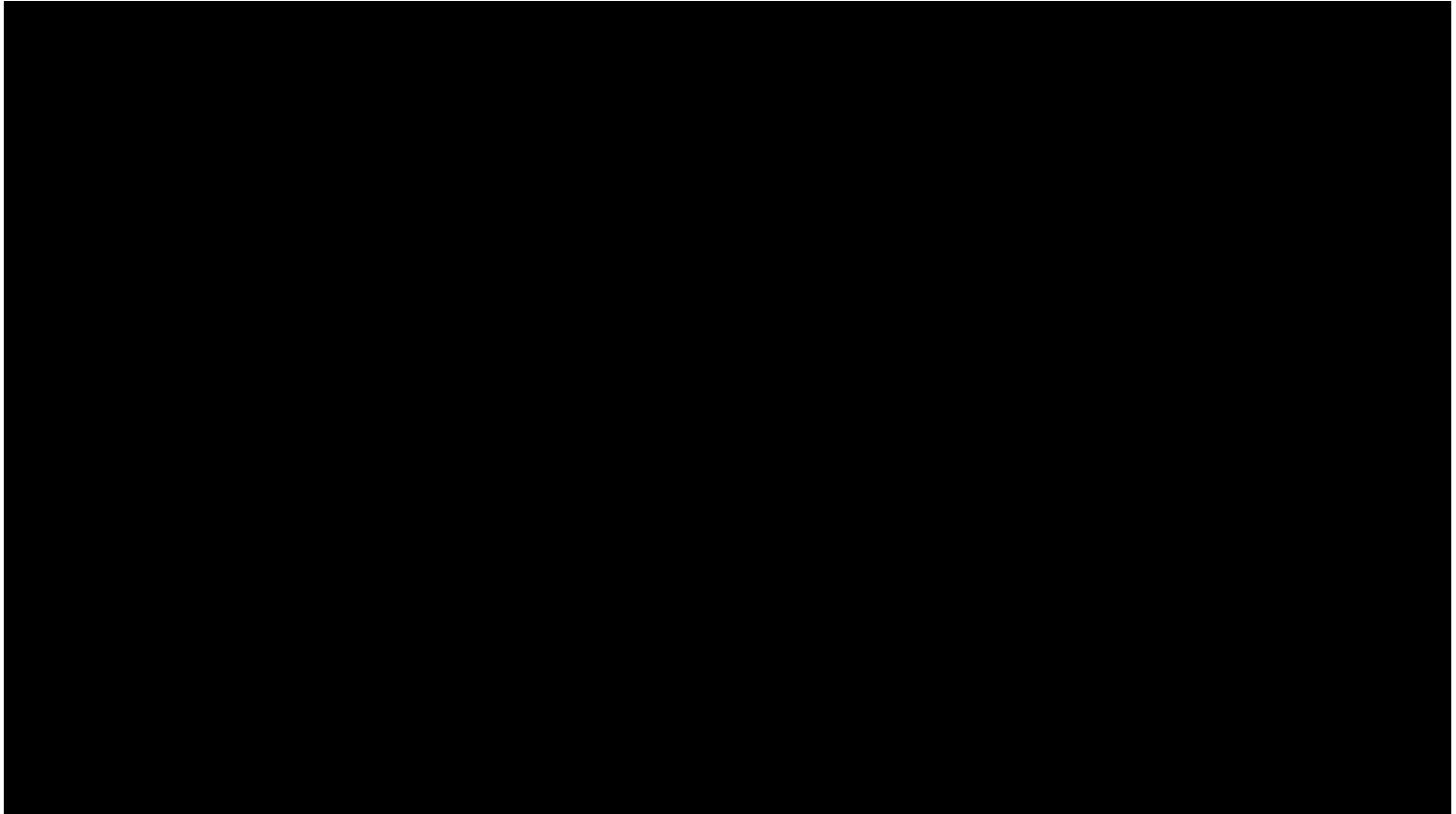
**We made our dreams true at NASA**



# We felt like controlling Mars robots



**We felt like controlling Mars robots**





# Valkyrie is a success today!



# One very successful robot – Now at Google





# Innovation in Human-Centered Robots

## The Rise of Practical Humanoid Robots

- Recent events:



- Strong, ***reliable***, ***safe***, and size of a grown-up:



Honda Asimo (2000)



AIST HRP4 (2010)



SARCOS Primus (2011)



SCHAFT (2013)



NASA Valkyrie (2013)



Sandia Nat. Lab WANDERER (2015)



IIT Walkman (2015)



Boston Dynamics Atlas 2 (2015)

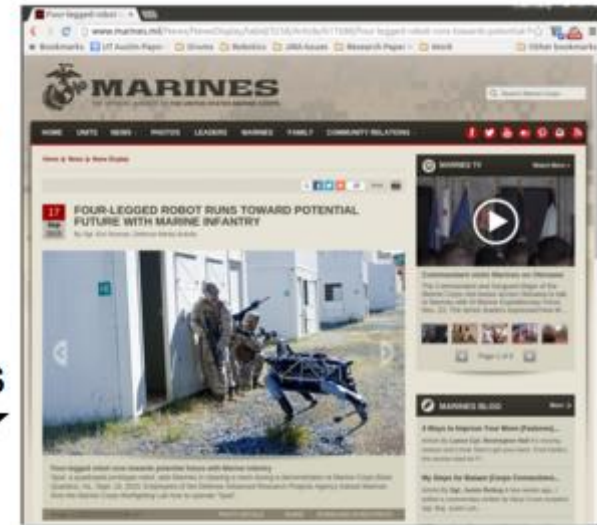


KAIST HRC-HUBO (2015)

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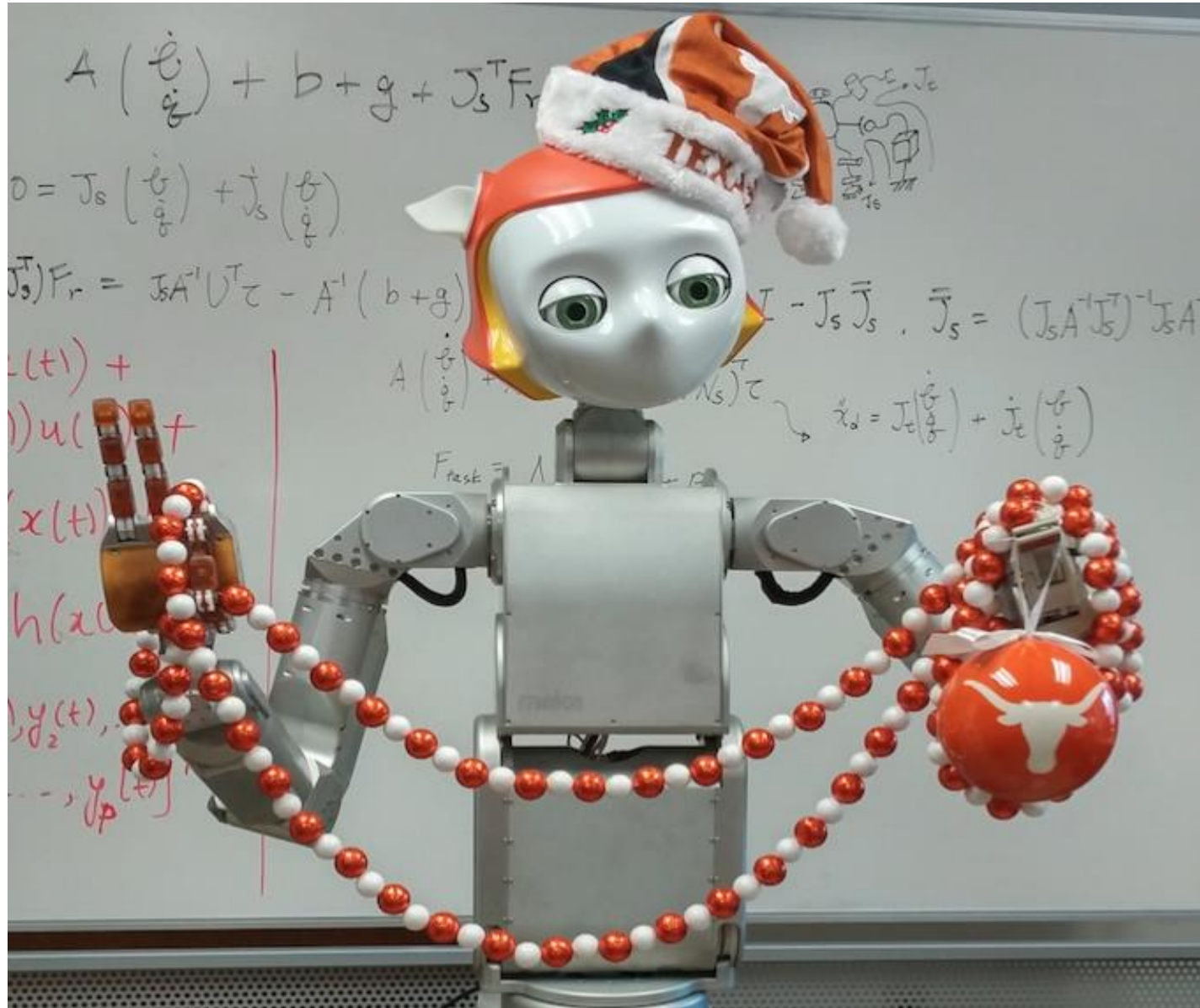
# Vision: Quantum Leap to Practicality

- Versatile, safe, and reliable human-centered robots
- Next-generation robots with class-leading actuators
- Integrating agility, manipulation, sensing, and awareness
- Demand: SOCOM, NASA, Navy, Marine Corps, DoE





# The End



# Dr. Luis Sentis



Dr. Luis Sentis is the director of the UT Human Centered Robotics Lab. He has worked on several humanoid robots, and is the creator of the robot Dreamer, which appeared in the movie *Transformers Age of Extinction* with Mark Wahlberg.

Dr. Sentis is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Texas at Austin since 2010.