

**Ai**

IA

**IA**

**(Intelligence Amplification)**

I get by **AI** with a little  
help from my ~~friends~~  
**friend's brains**



John Lennon

# Smarter Parts: Intelligence, Learning, and Communication in Human-Prosthesis Interaction

**Patrick M. Pilarski**

*Division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Dept. Medicine  
PI, Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute (Amii)  
PI, Reinforcement Learning and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory*



EDMONTON · ALBERTA · CANADA







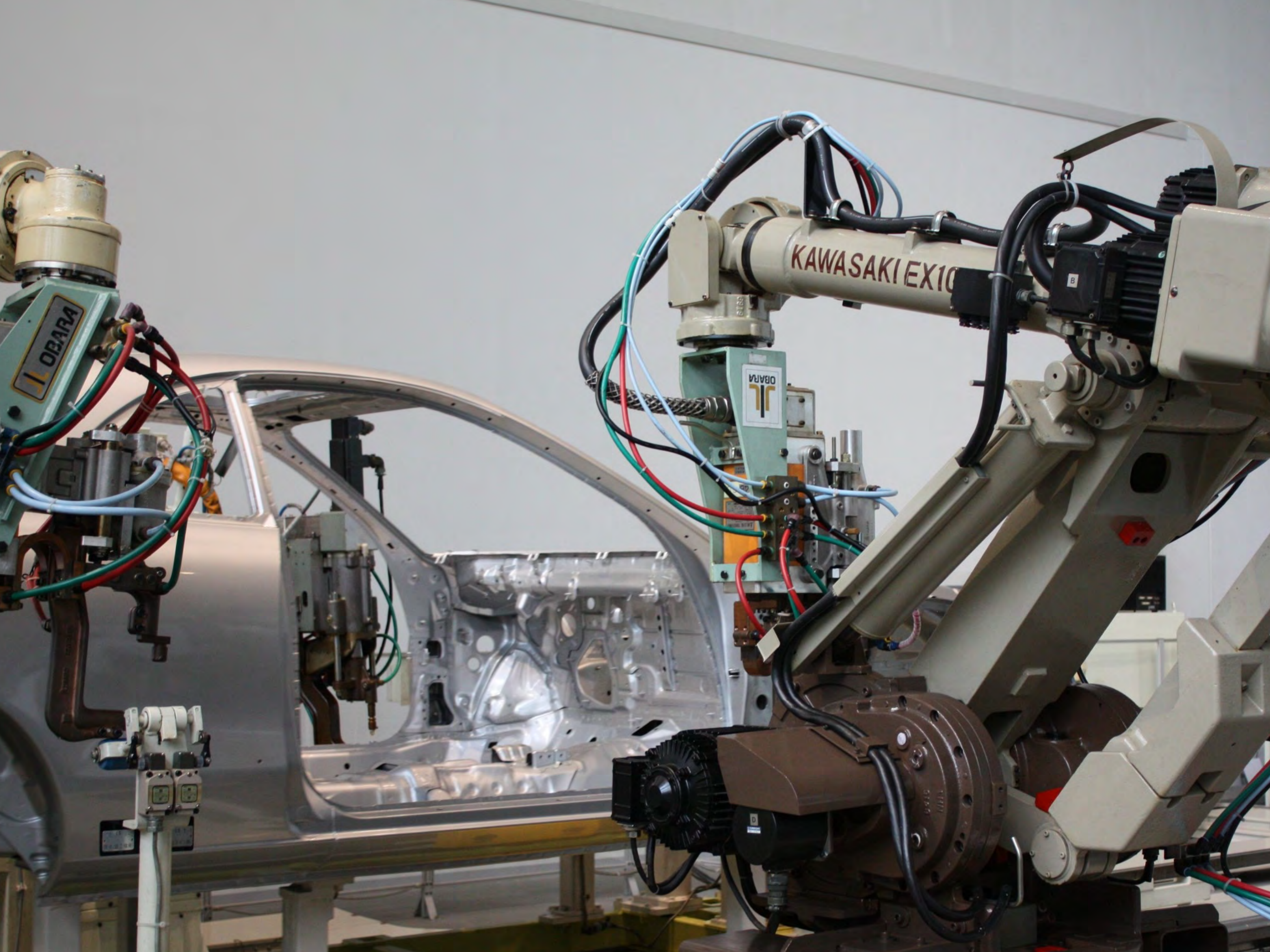
STICK  
{a stick,  
branch,  
twig}

{force multiplier,  
remote actuation}



STICK  
{a stick,  
branch,  
twig}

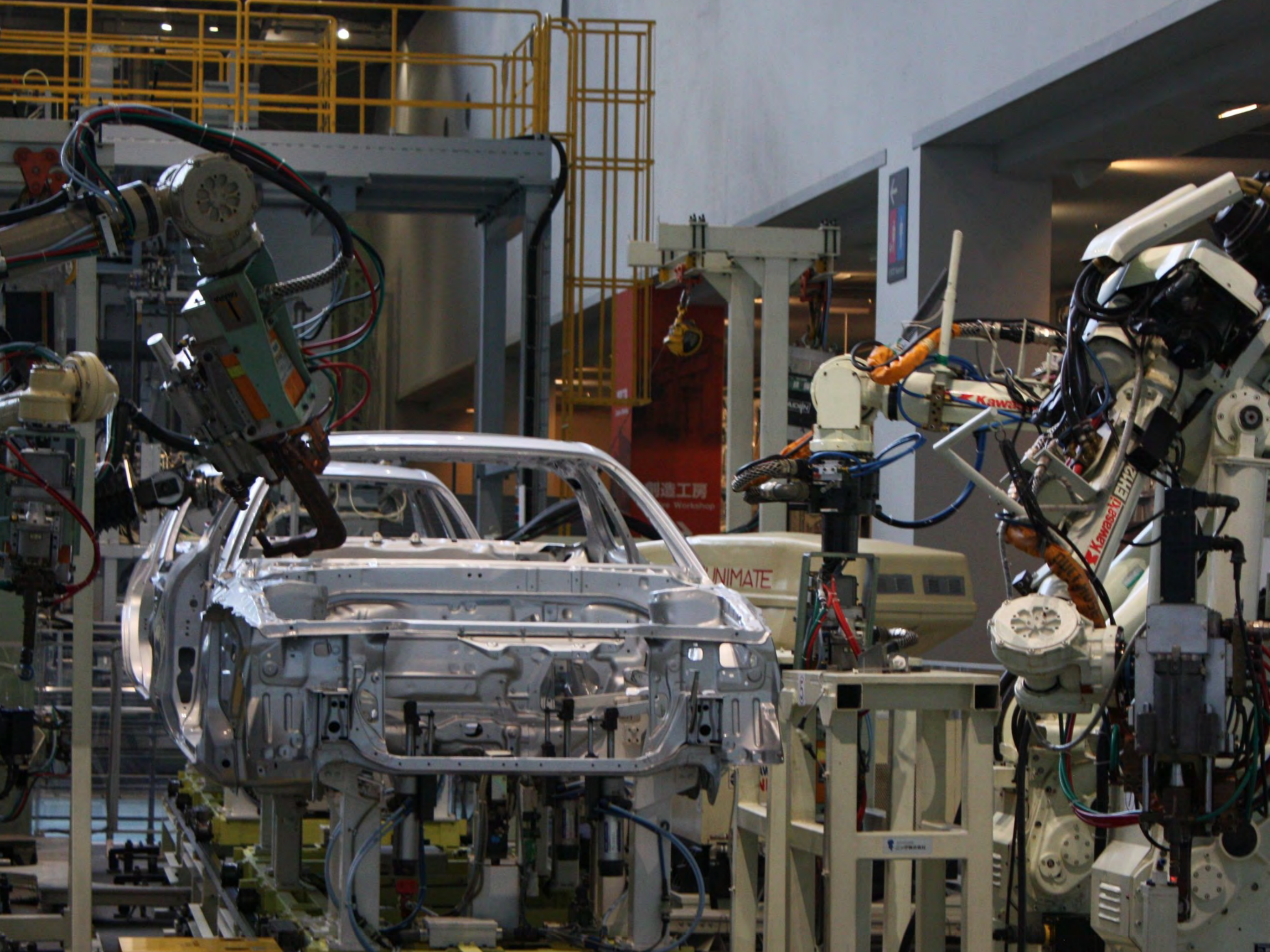


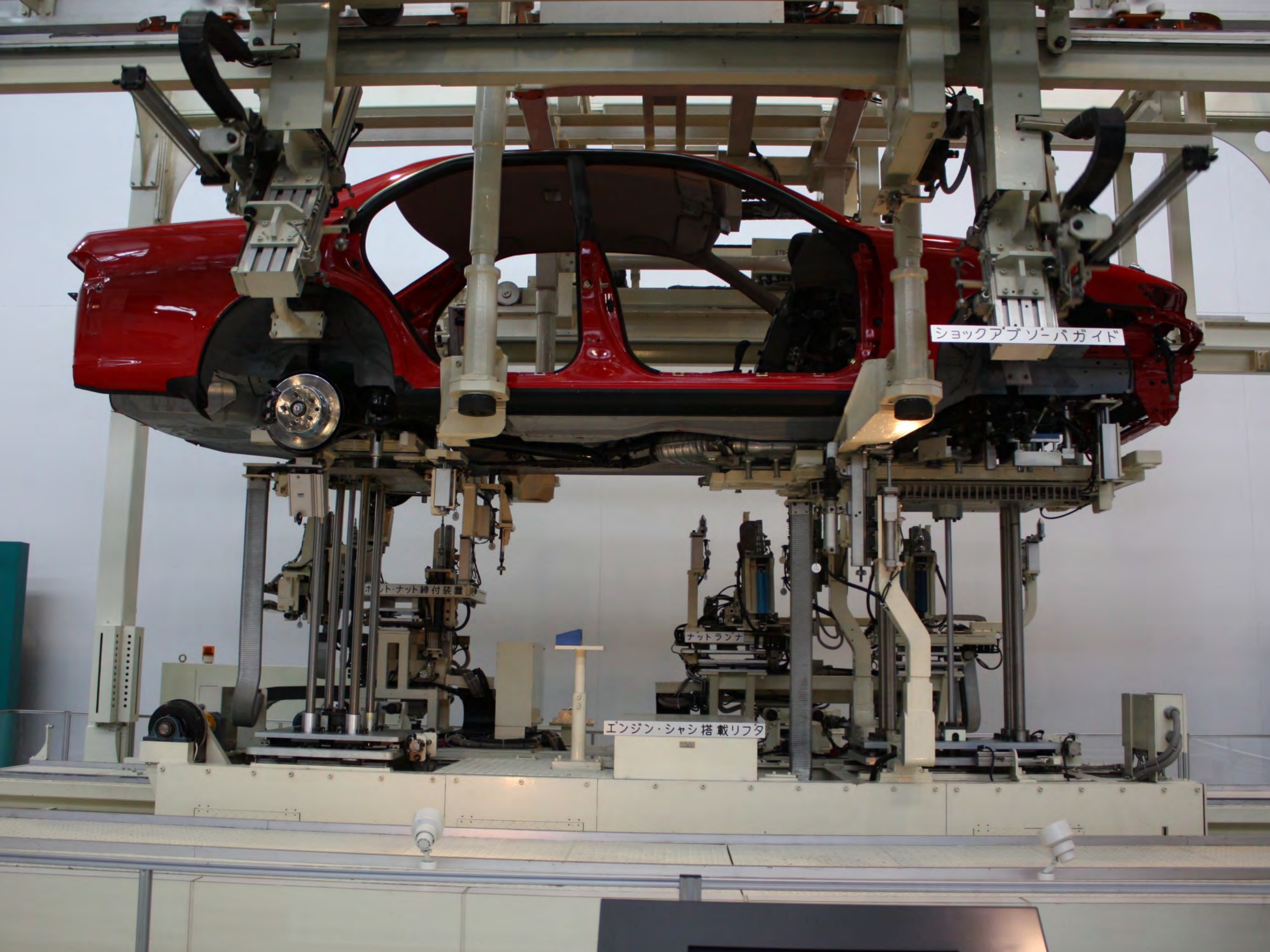


OBARA

KAWASAKI EX10

OBARA





ショックアブソーバガイド

ボルト・ナット締付装置

ナットランナ

エンジン・シャシ搭載リフト



# SPINNING WHEEL



{animal fur,  
plant matter}

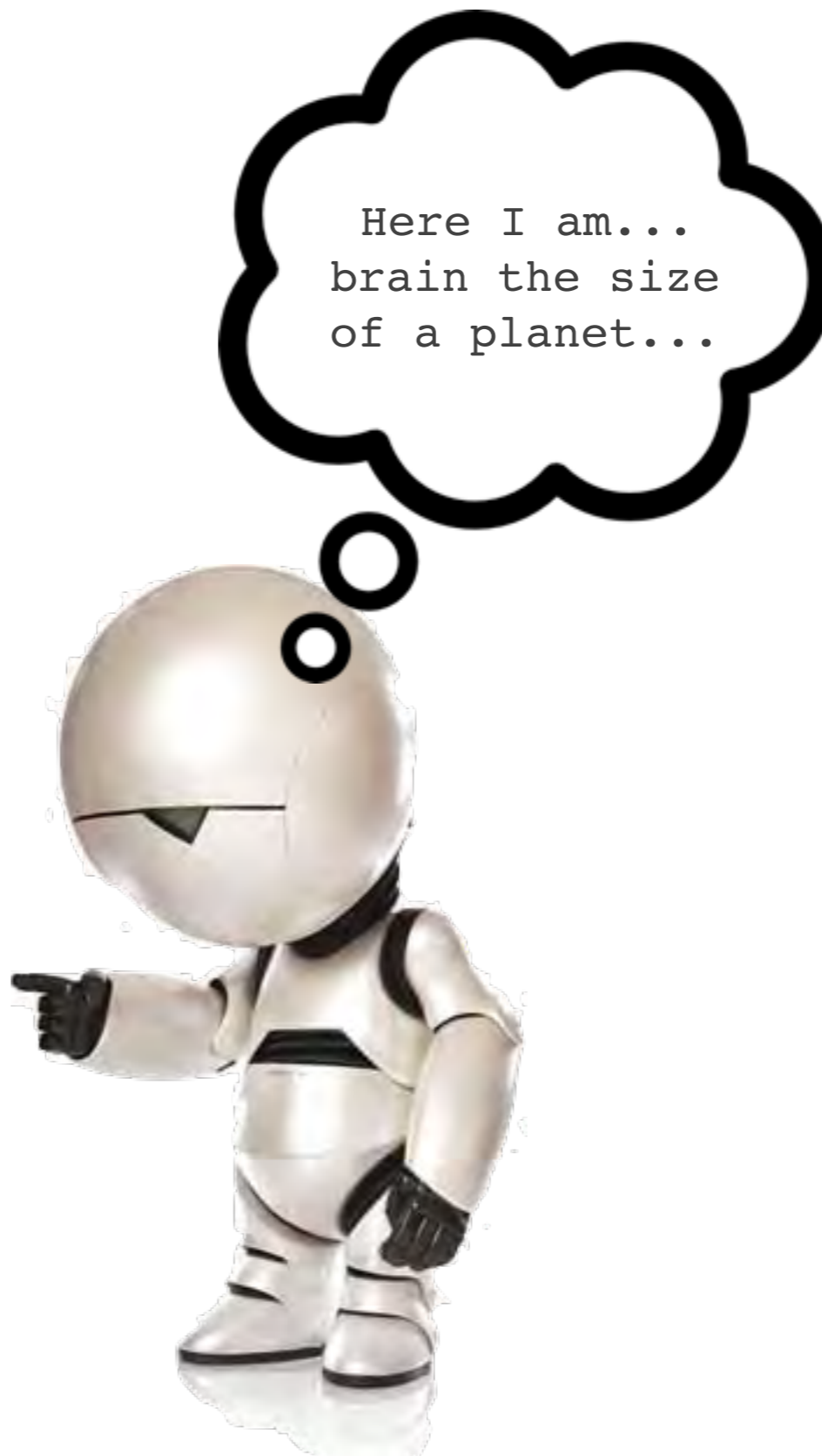
>>

{thread,  
yarn}



**... and, in short order**

**...**



**Marvin** the paranoid android from THHGTTG.





**Machines learn and adapt to human users . . .**

... humans change to better interact with machines.



Towards Super-human Intelligence



Stairwell from  
**Antoni Gaudi's** La Sagrada Familia

# Brain-Body-Machine Interfaces (BMIs)

**two systems working together** in partnership to  
achieve shared objectives.

in most rehabilitation settings, one system **directs**  
(human), the other **assists** (machine).

Outside. Pee outside.  
Seriously: pee outside!

Whee! I can pee  
on carpets!



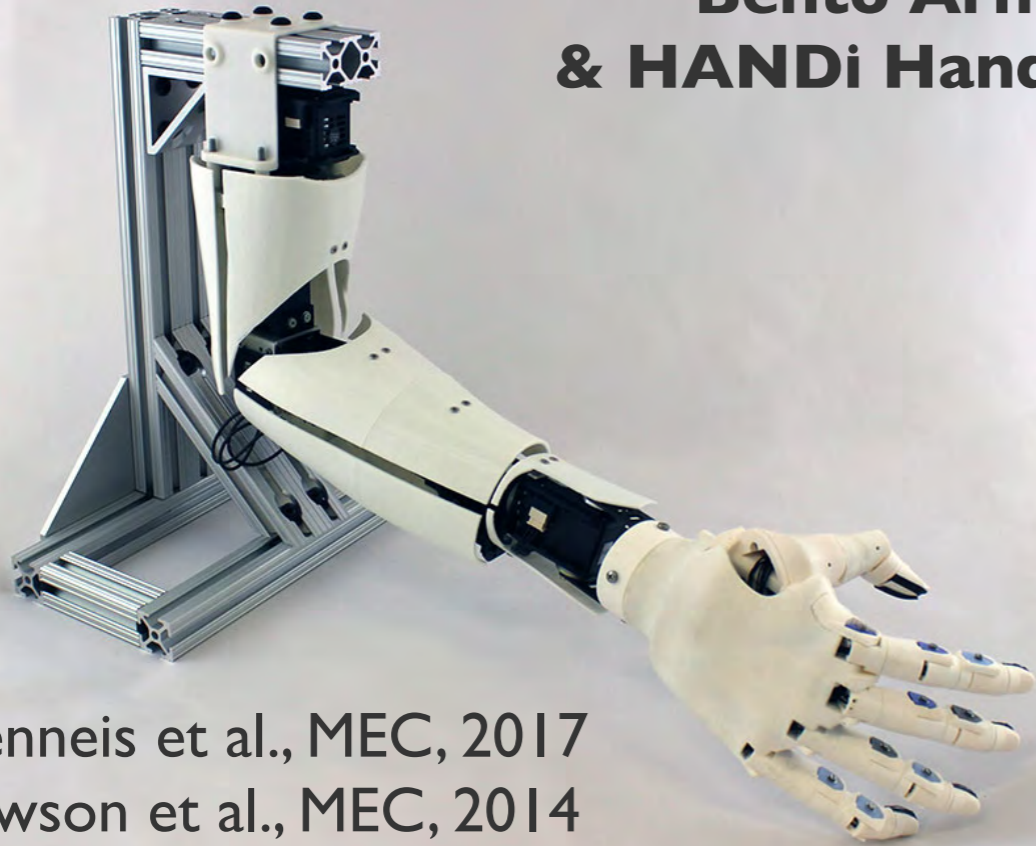




# Upper-limb Prosthetics

(from cables-and-hooks to bionic bodies)

## Bento Arm & HANDi Hand



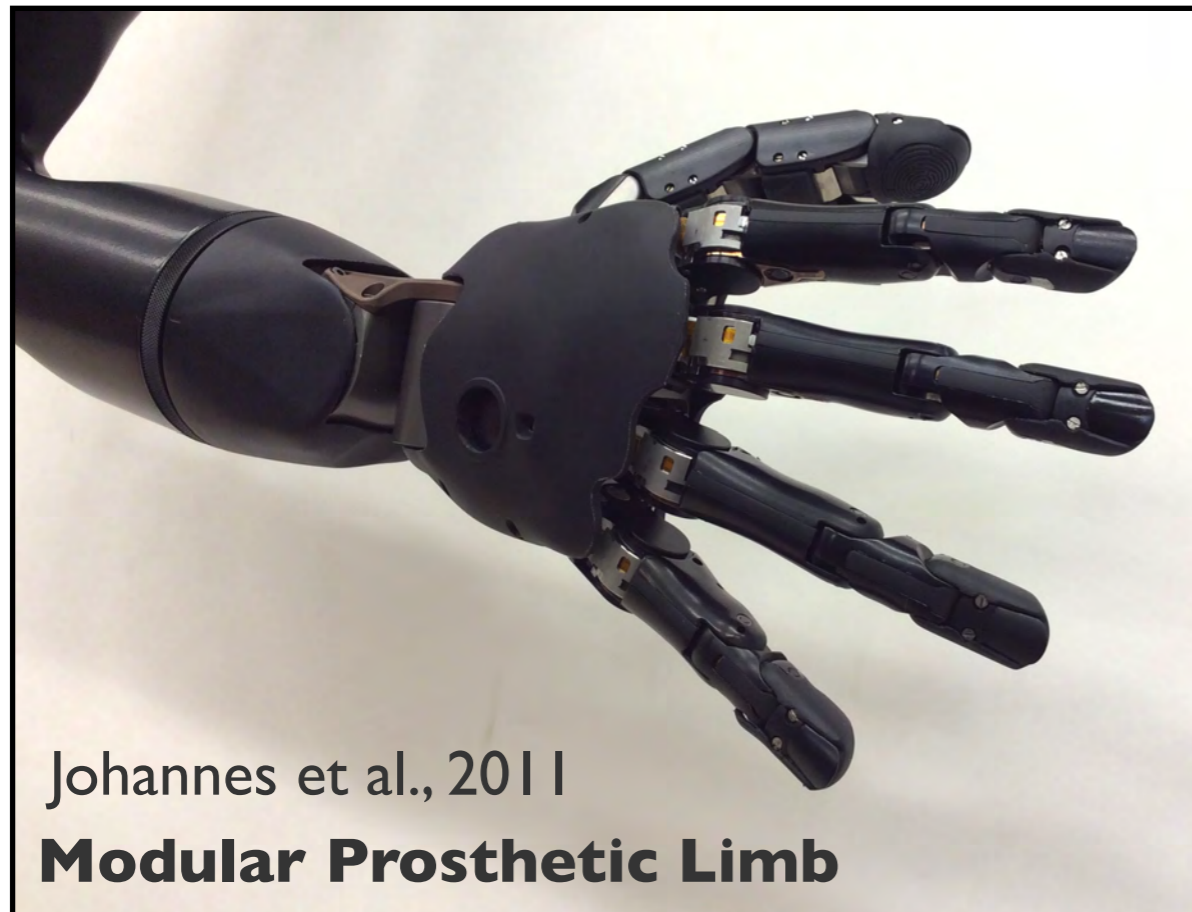
Brenneis et al., MEC, 2017  
Dawson et al., MEC, 2014

# Advanced bionic technology exists ...

... but there are  
barriers to using it.

**Function  
Control  
Feedback**

(Peerdeman 2011, Scheme 2011,  
Micera 2010, Resnik 2012)

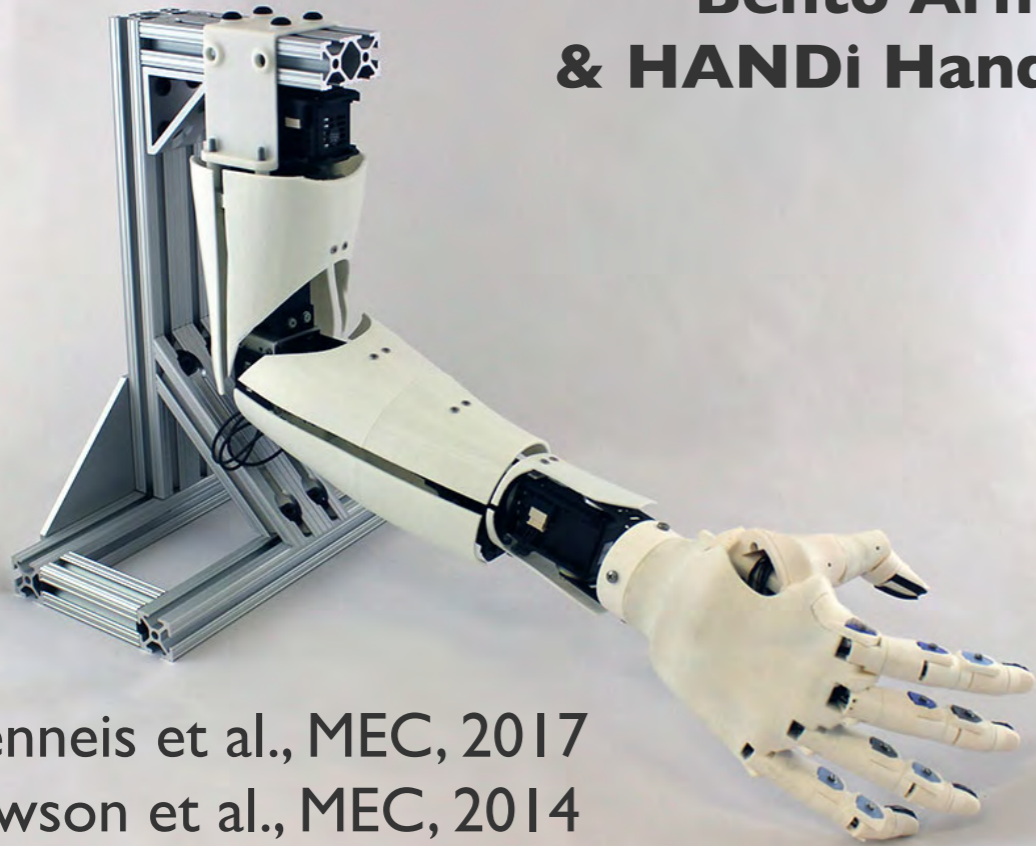


Johannes et al., 2011

**Modular Prosthetic Limb**

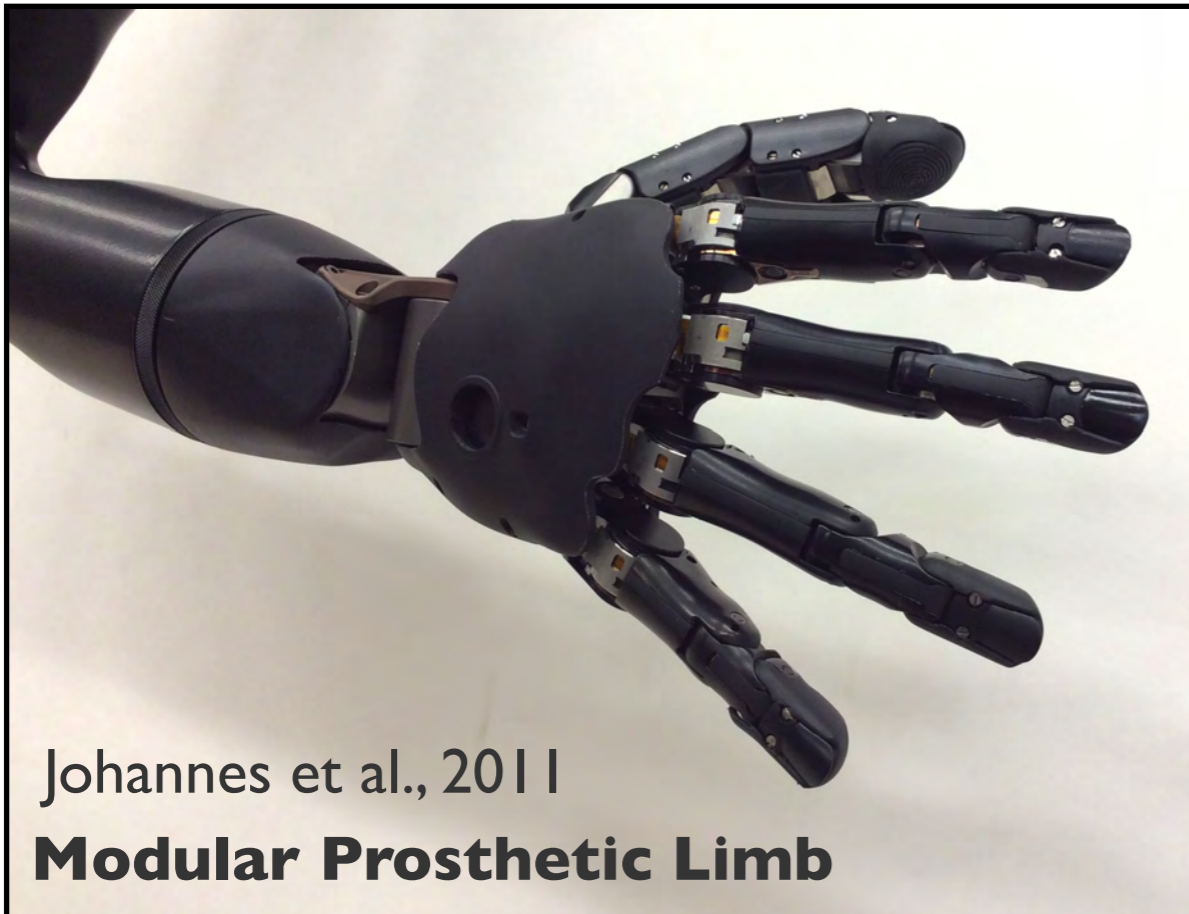


**Bento Arm  
& HANDi Hand**



Brenneis et al., MEC, 2017  
Dawson et al., MEC, 2014

Advanced  
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**Modular Prosthetic Limb**

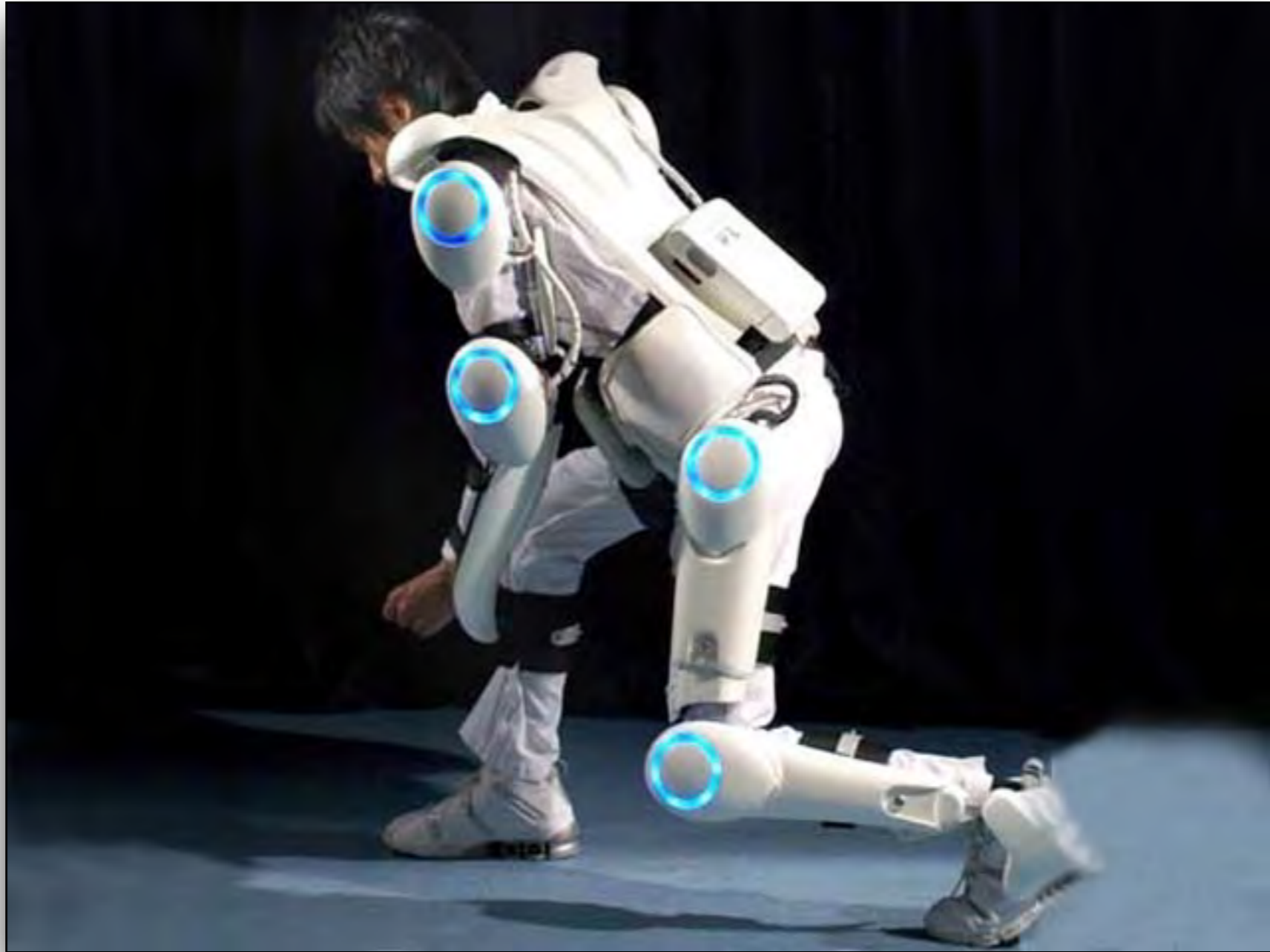




Courtesy of DEKA Research & Development and  
The Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago



**Direct brain-computer interfaces:** study participant Jan Scheuermann feeding herself with a robotic limb (University of Pittsburgh)  
<http://www.upmc.com/media/media-kit/bci/Pages/default.aspx>



**Hybrid Assistive Limb (HAL):** Cyberdyne Inc., Japan.



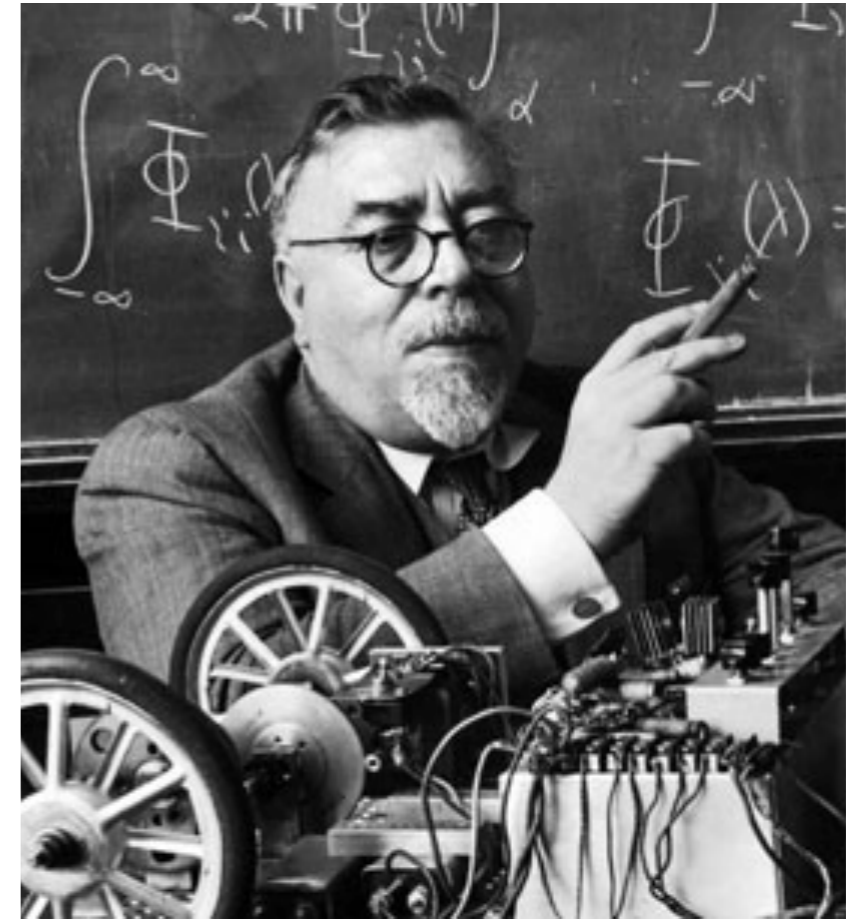
Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago (RIC) research subject, **Zac Vawter** at the top of the Willis Tower in Chicago (Photo: The Associated Press).

# Principal Challenge for the Control of Neuroprostheses



- Increasing number of functions or actuator configurations that a user can select/control.
- The controllable functions typically outnumber the available control channels

- Future assistive devices will receive an unprecedented density of data about a user, their needs, and their environment.
- This stream of data will need to be skillfully leveraged to enable the coordination of vast numbers of actuators and functions.
- Prostheses are beginning to take an **active role** in this process.



c.f., **Norbert Wiener**,  
1948: *Cybernetics: Or Control  
and Communication in the  
Animal and the Machine.*

# ... Mechanisms ...

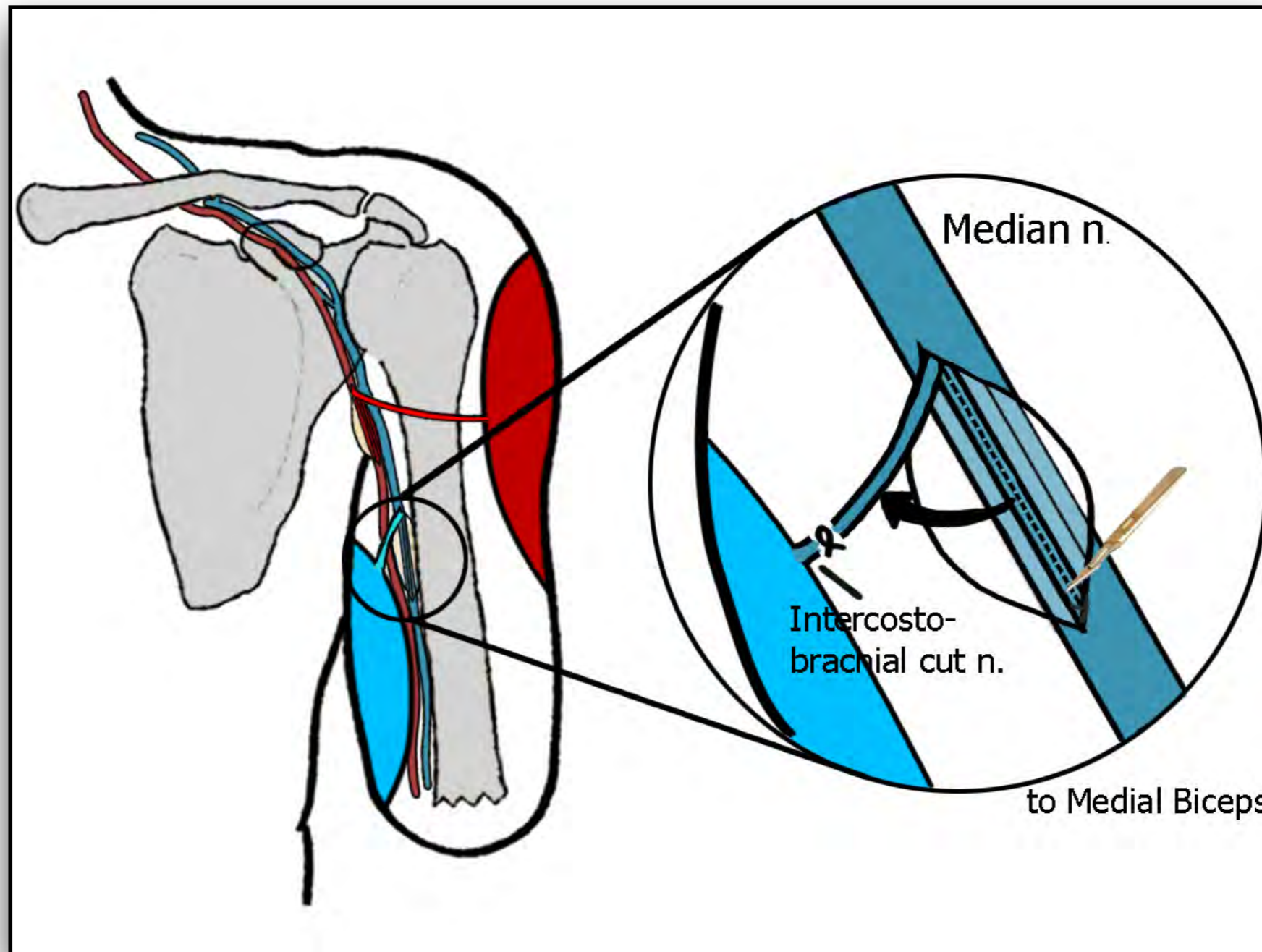
evaluating and improving  
conventional prosthesis control  
(both human and machine elements)





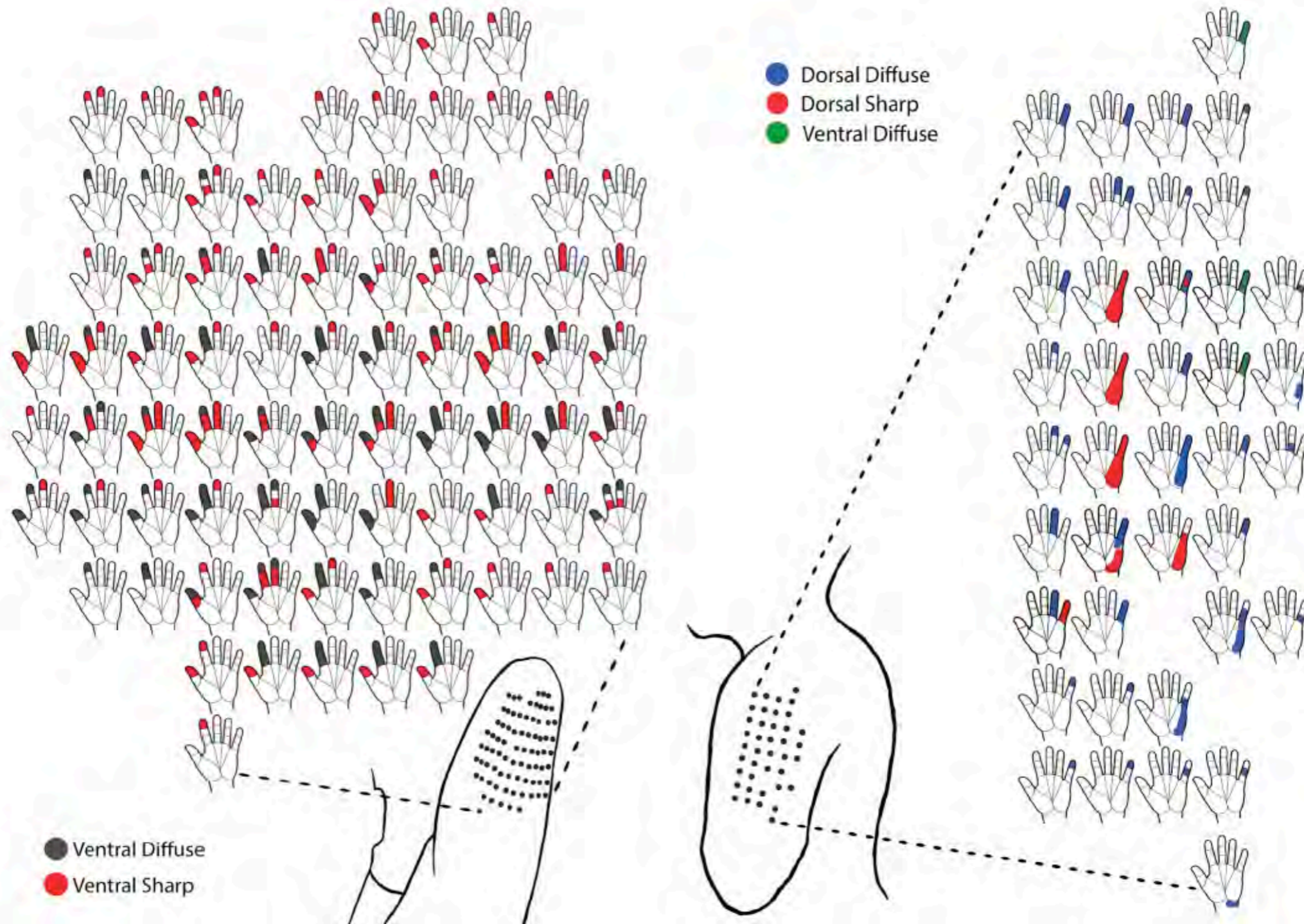
Sequential (Switched) Myoelectric Control

# Re-wiring the Nerves



**TSR:** Targeted Sensory Reinnervation

# Re-wiring the Nerves

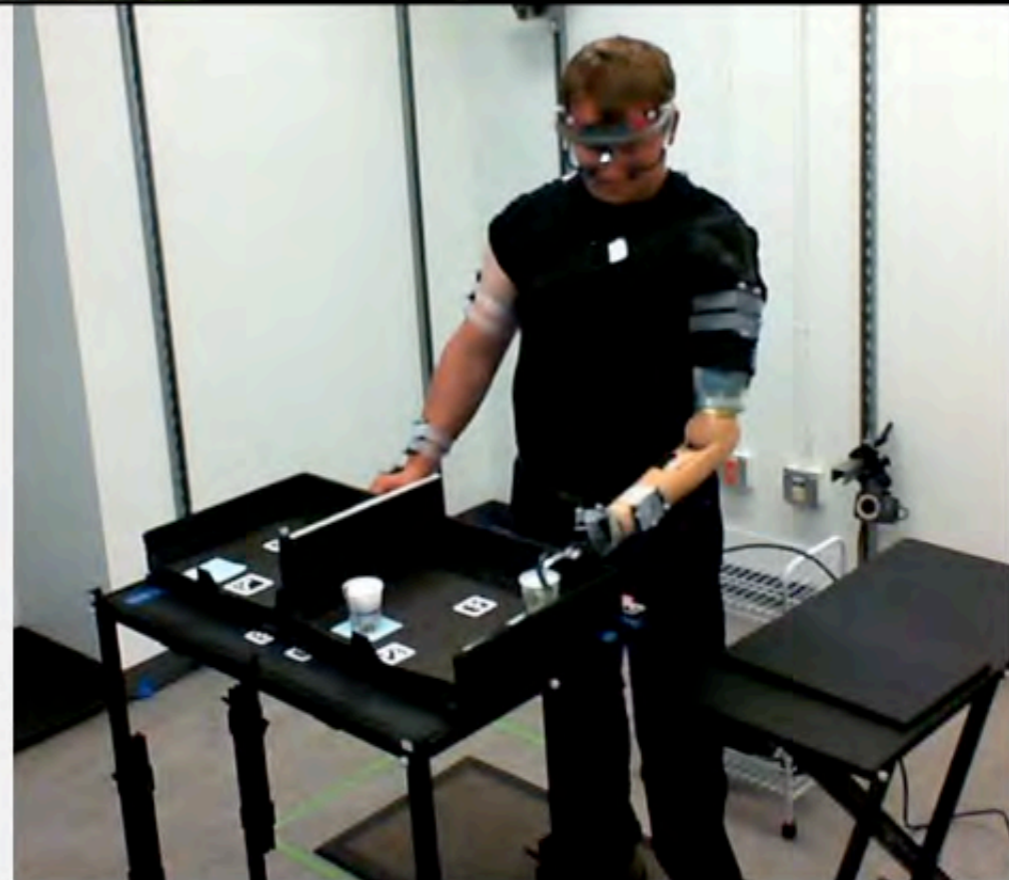
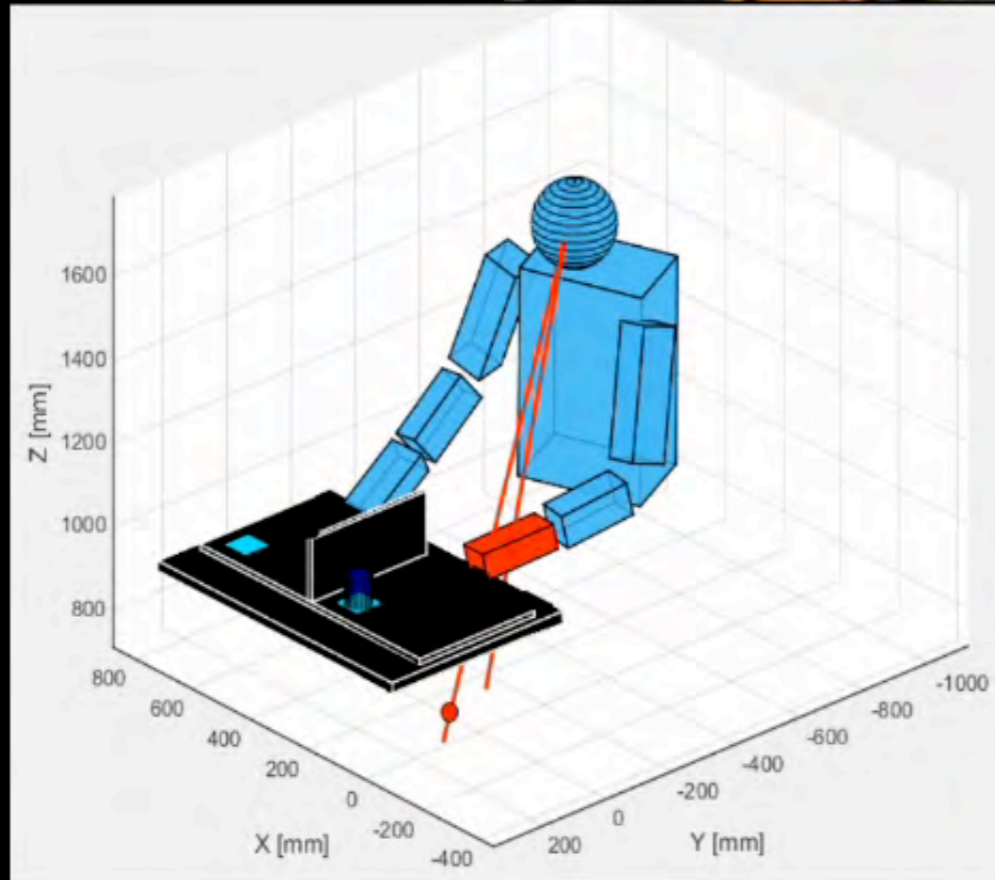
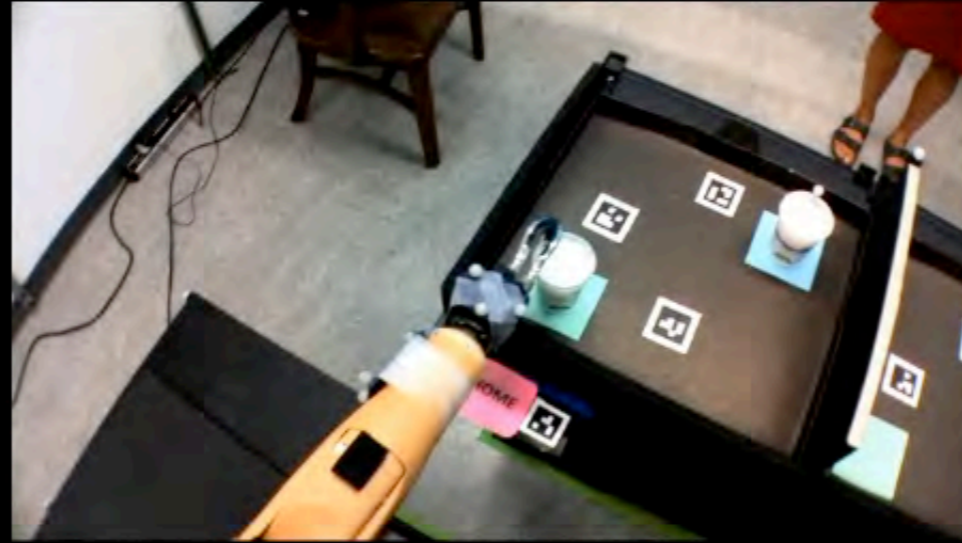


**TSR:** Targeted Sensory Reinnervation  
Hebert et al., 2014, IEEE-TNSRE

**Targeted Reinnervation Surgery**  
Hebert et al., 2014



# DARPA HAPTIX Measures: Prosthetic User

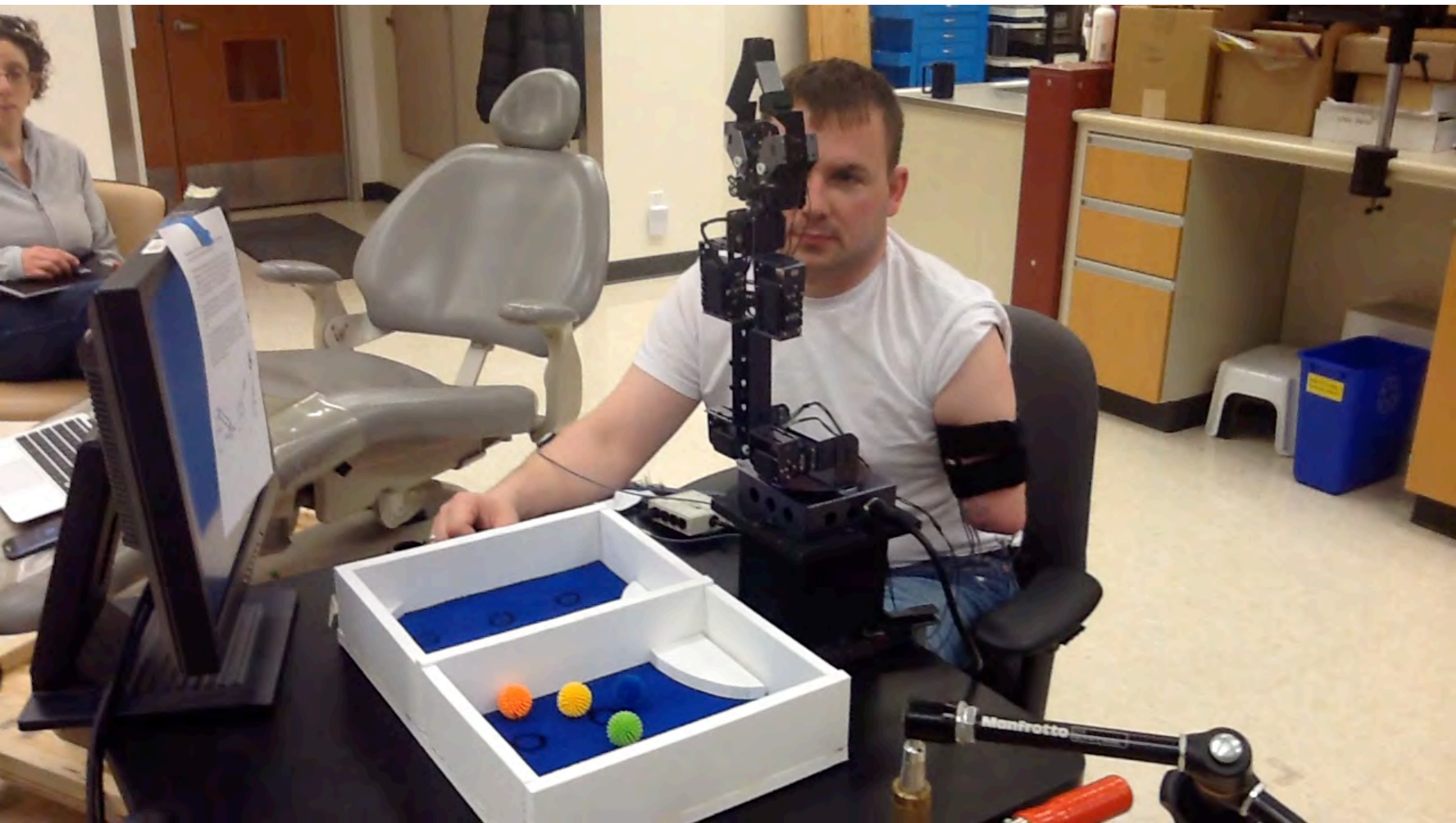


# ... Machine Learning ...

enhancing prostheses with  
machine prediction and control learning



Commercially Deployed  
Pattern Recognition



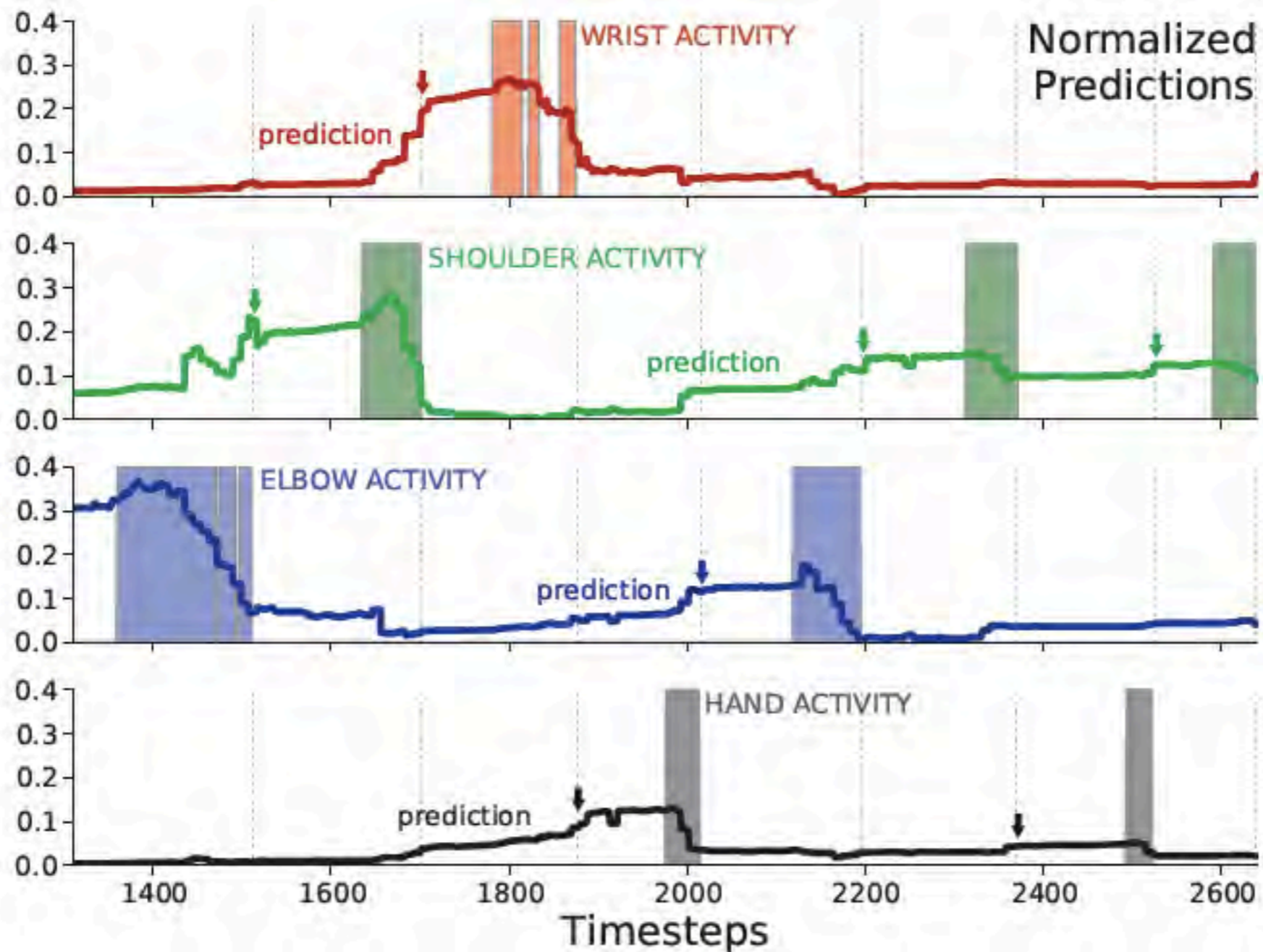
## Adaptive Switching

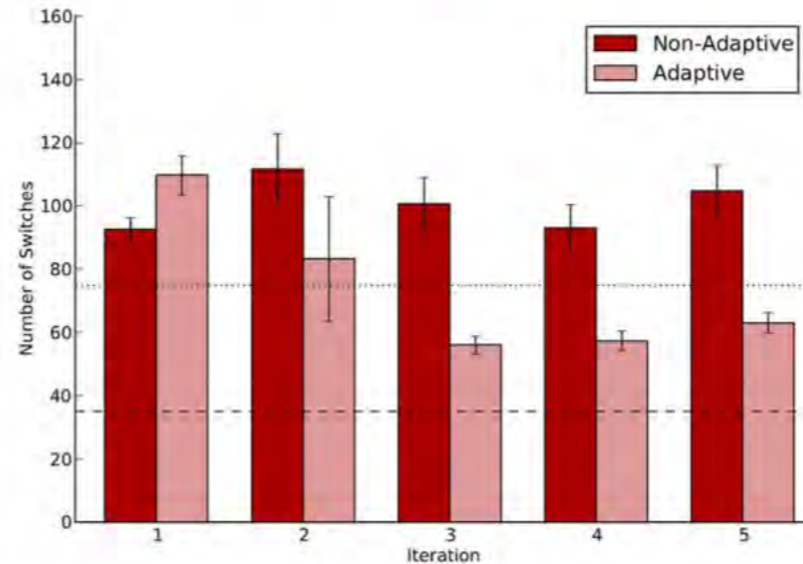
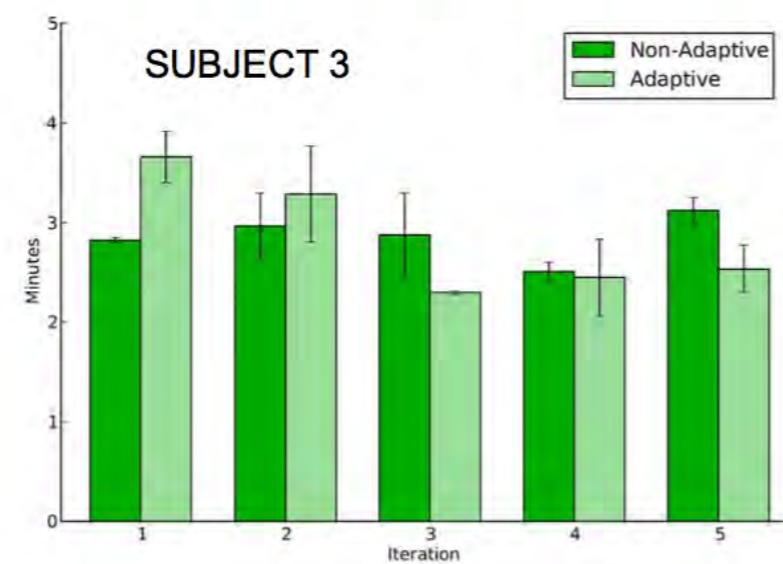
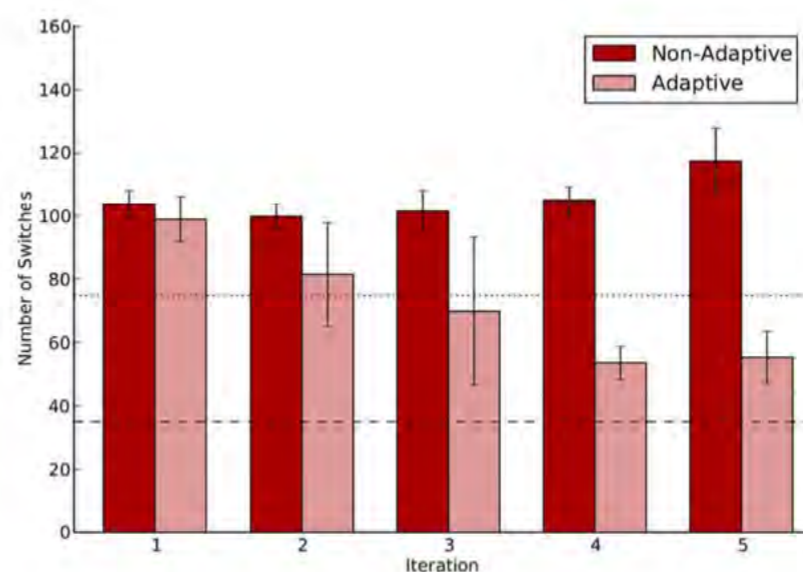
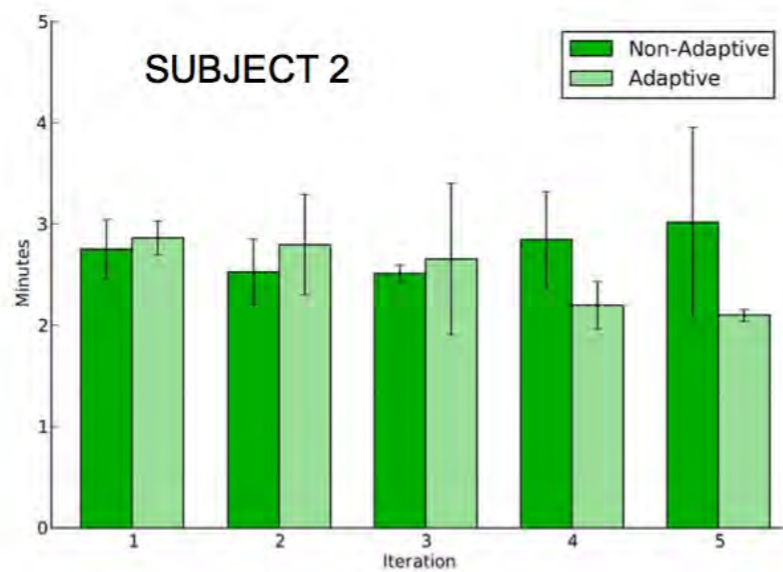
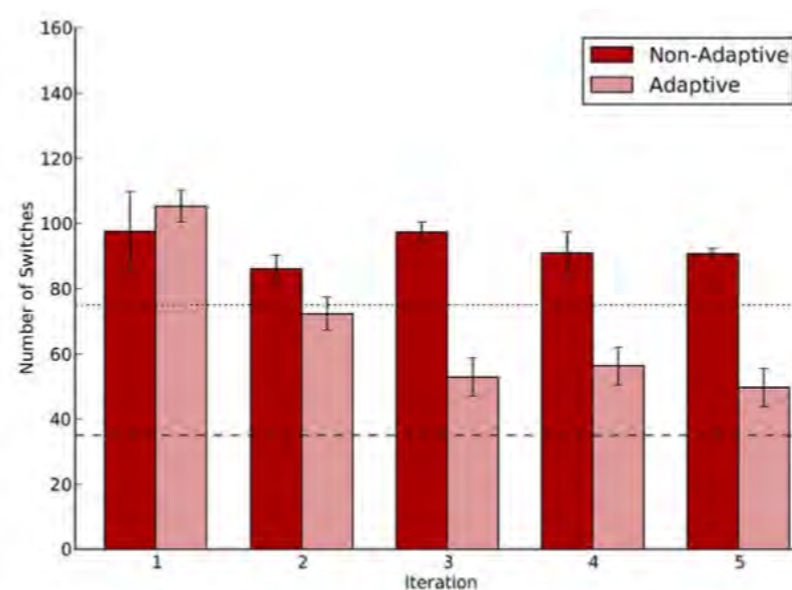
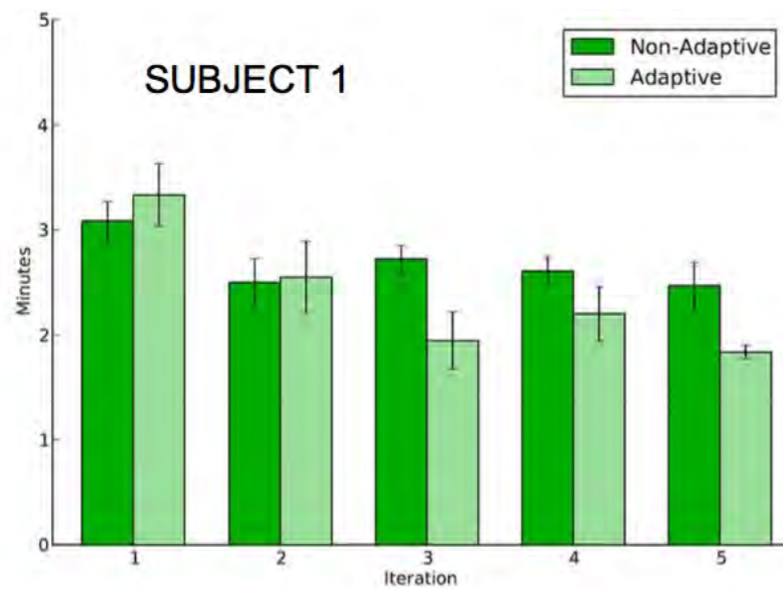
Edwards et al., *MEC*, 2014

Edwards et al., *Prosthetics Orthotics Int.*, 2015



# Predicting the Future



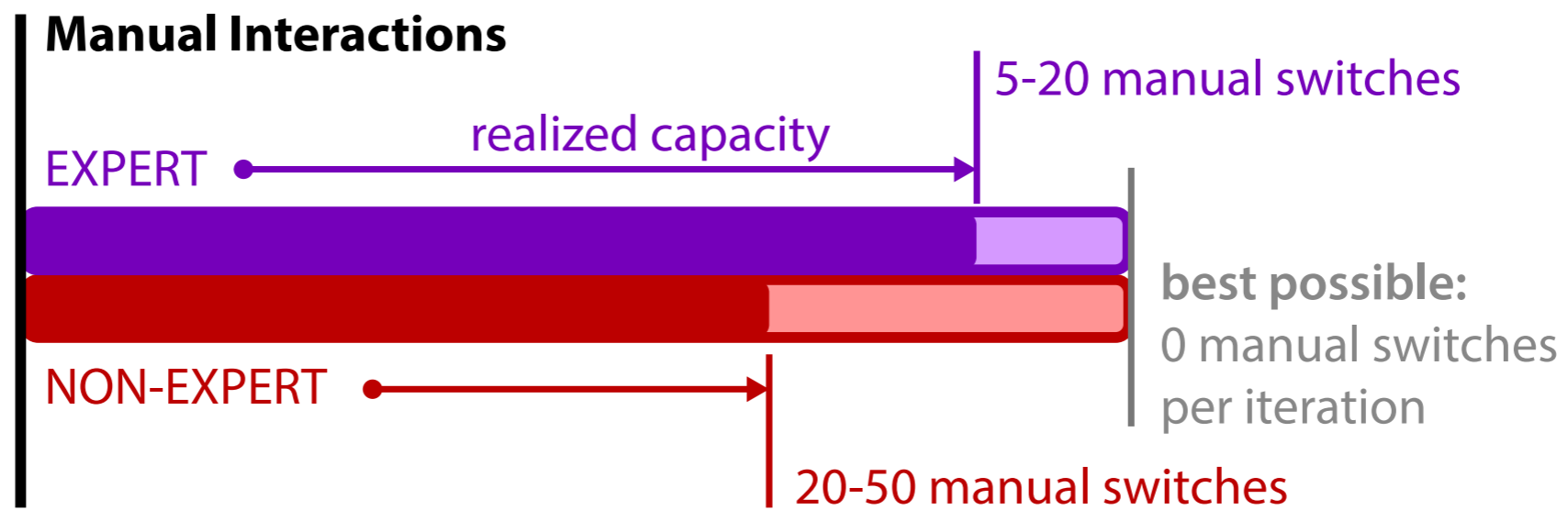
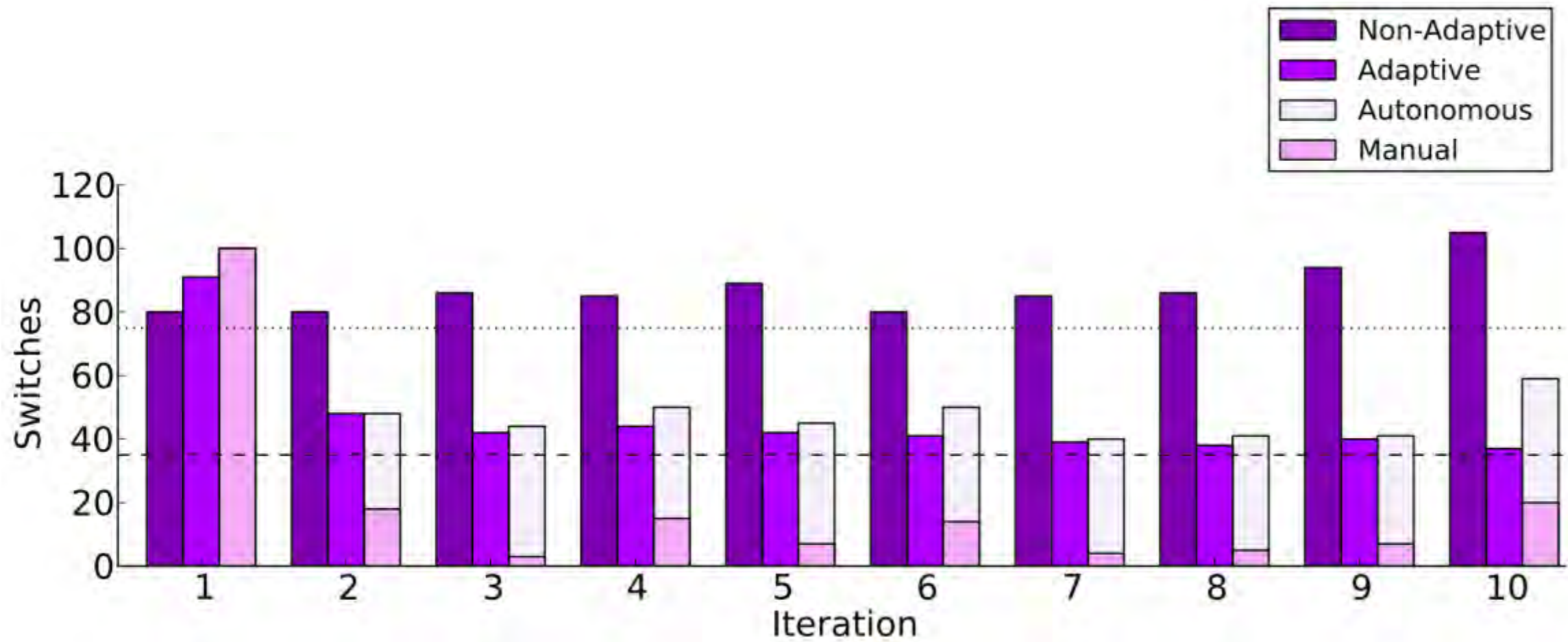


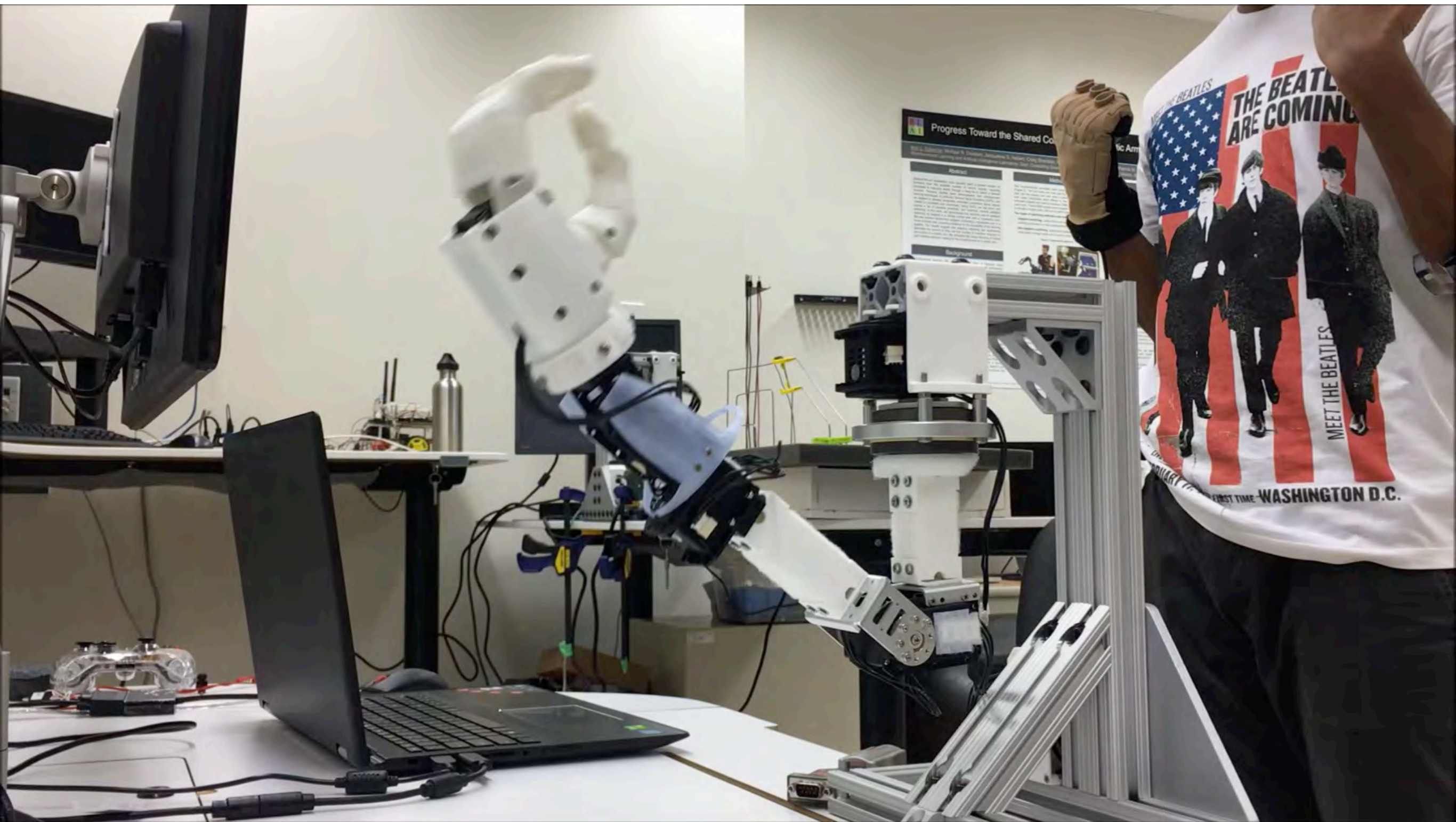


## Autonomous Switching

(learning and unlearning automatic control actions)

Edwards et al., *BioRob*, 2016

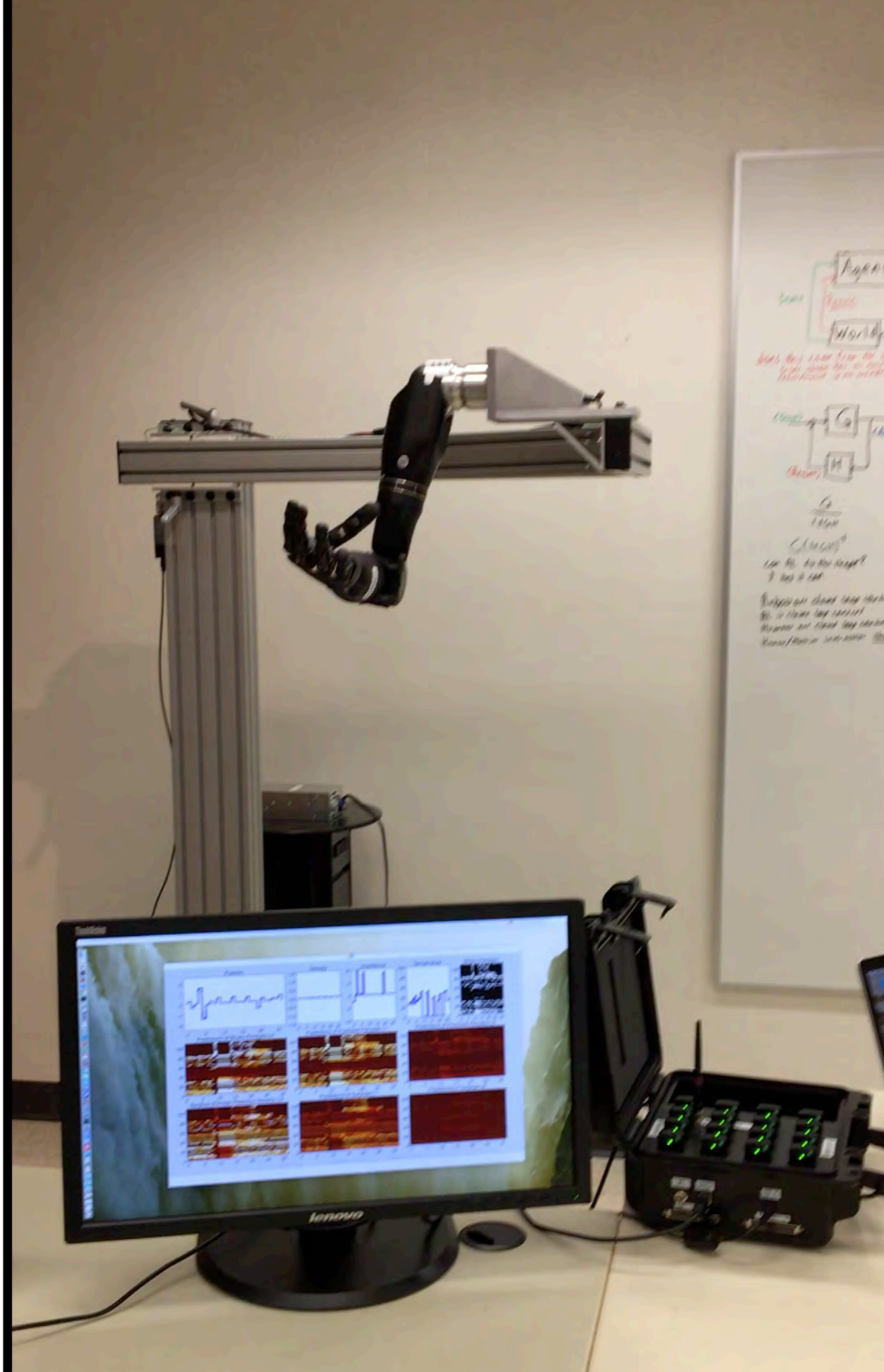




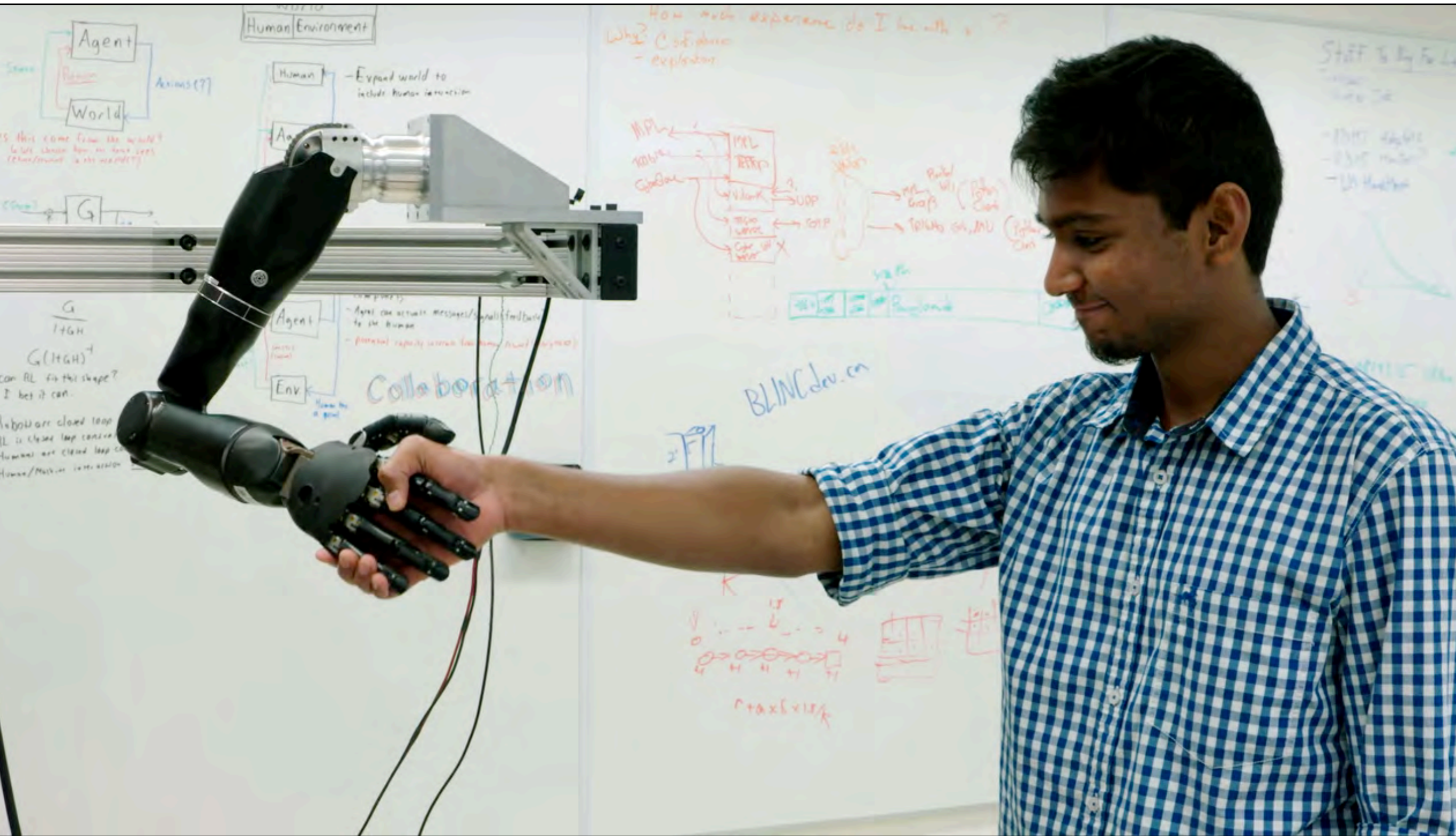
Vasan, *M.Sc. Thesis*, 2017; Vasan et al., *ICORR*, 2017

# Towards Smarter Parts

moving beyond engineered solutions  
and towards more general prosthetic intelligence

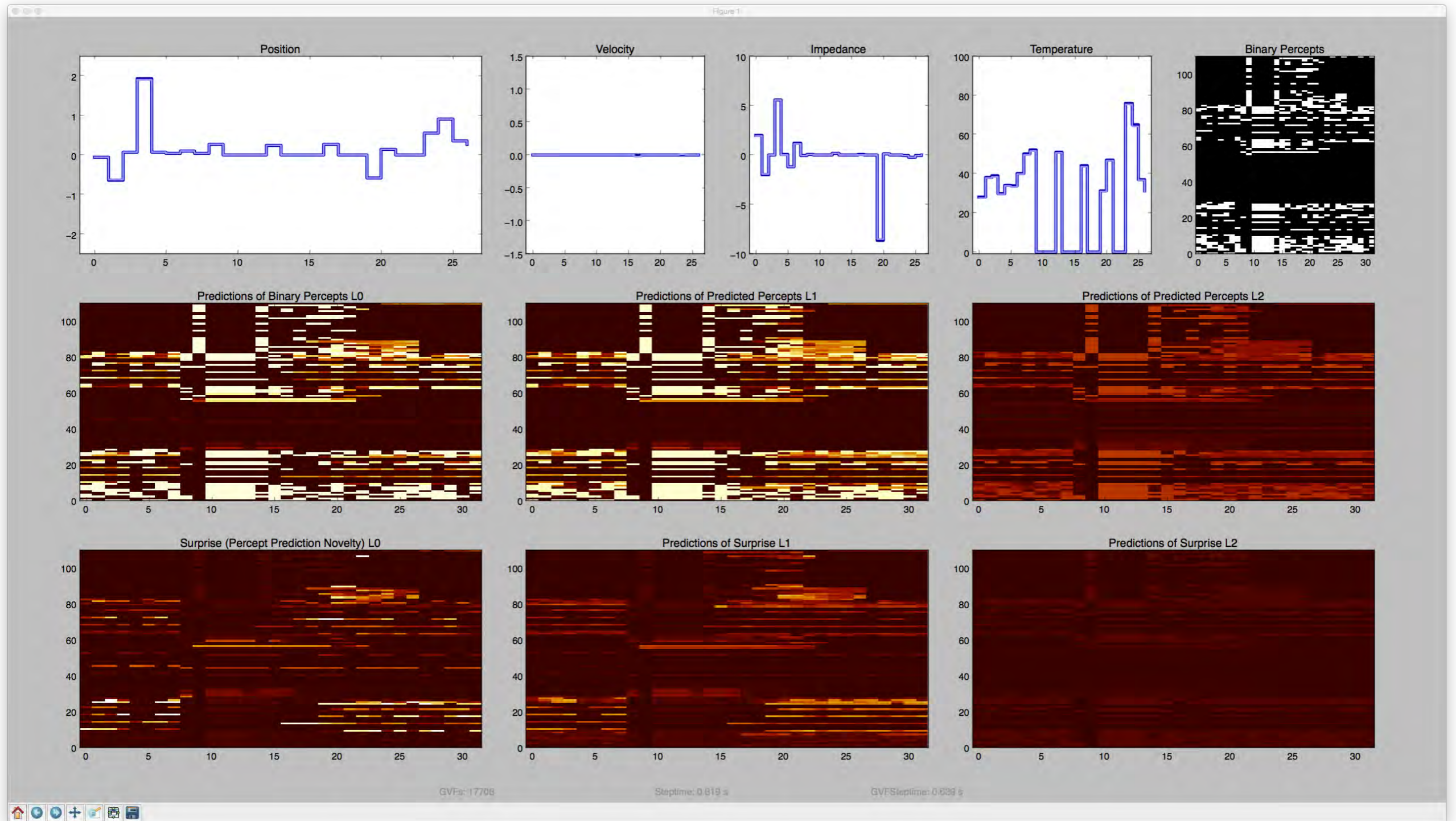


**Pilarski Lab**  
Jan. 2017

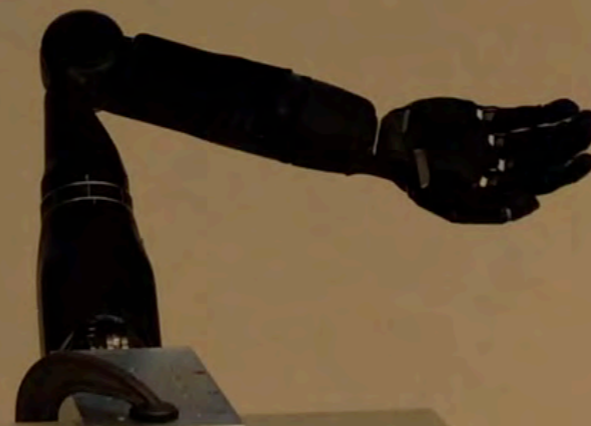
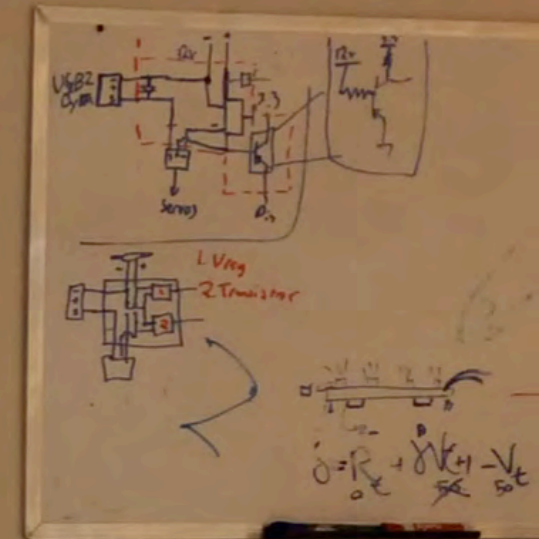
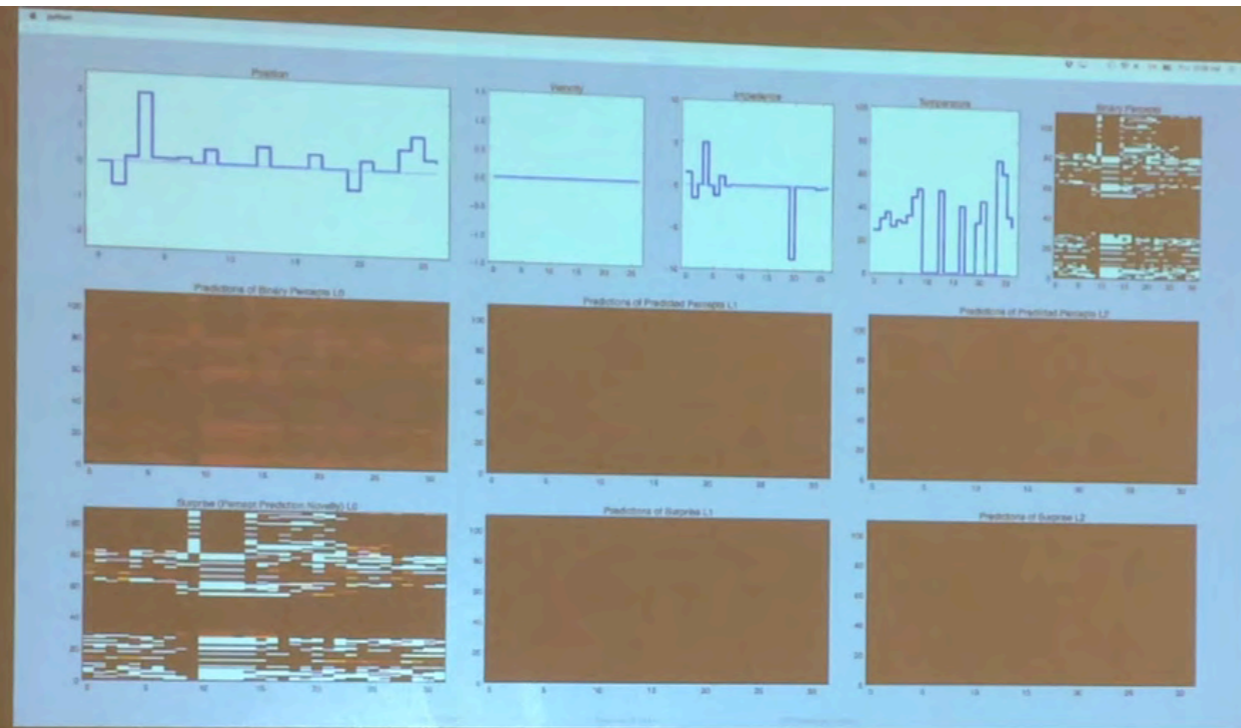


**Pilarski Lab**  
August 2016





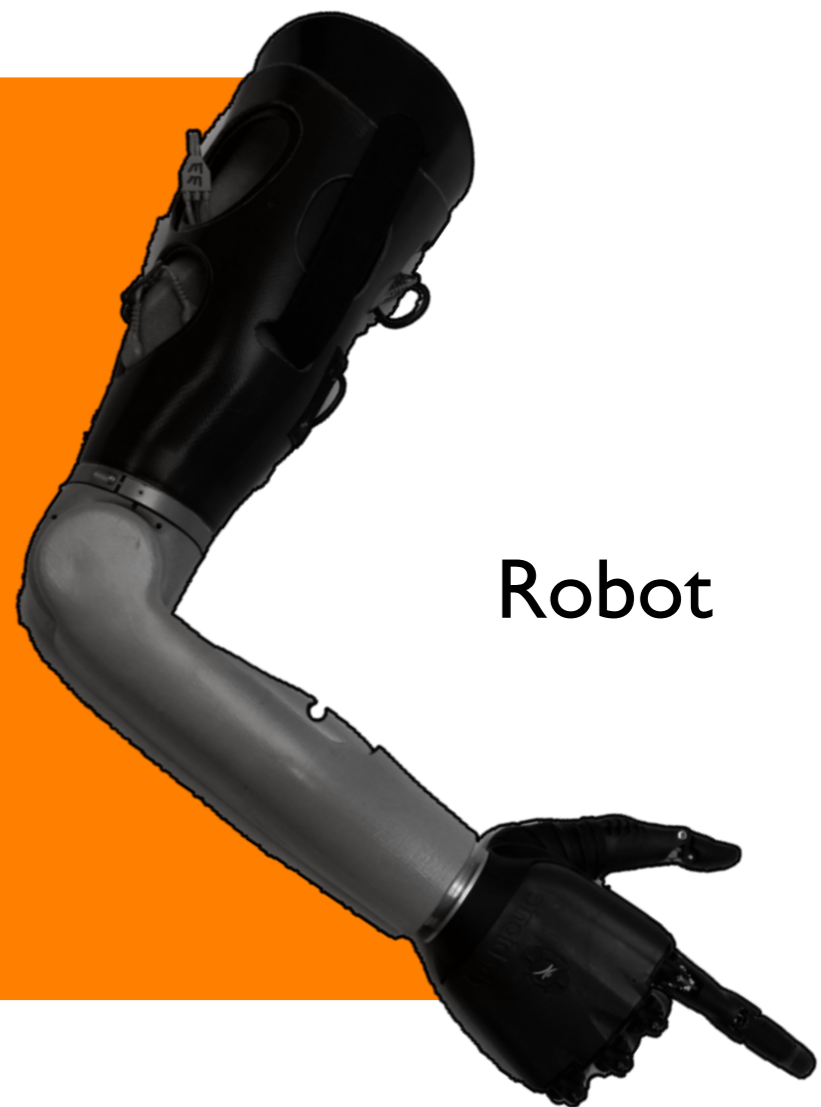
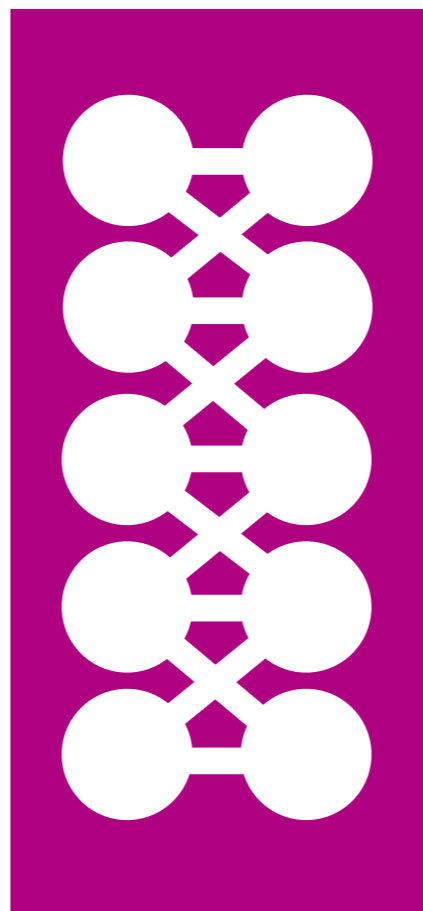
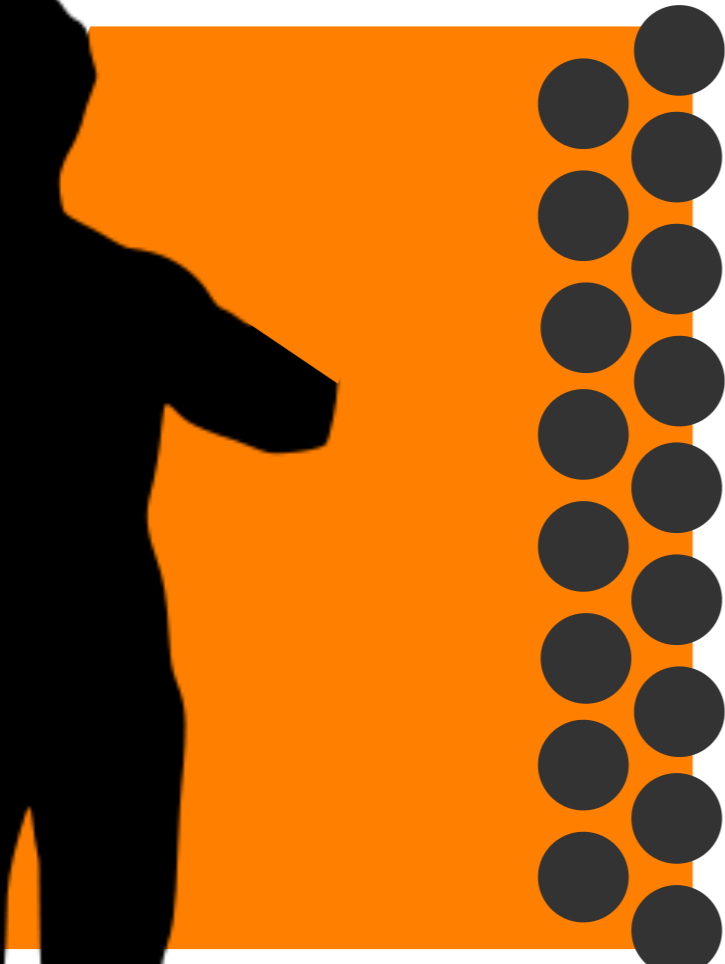
Communicative capital: work expended to build up knowledge about internal and external signals



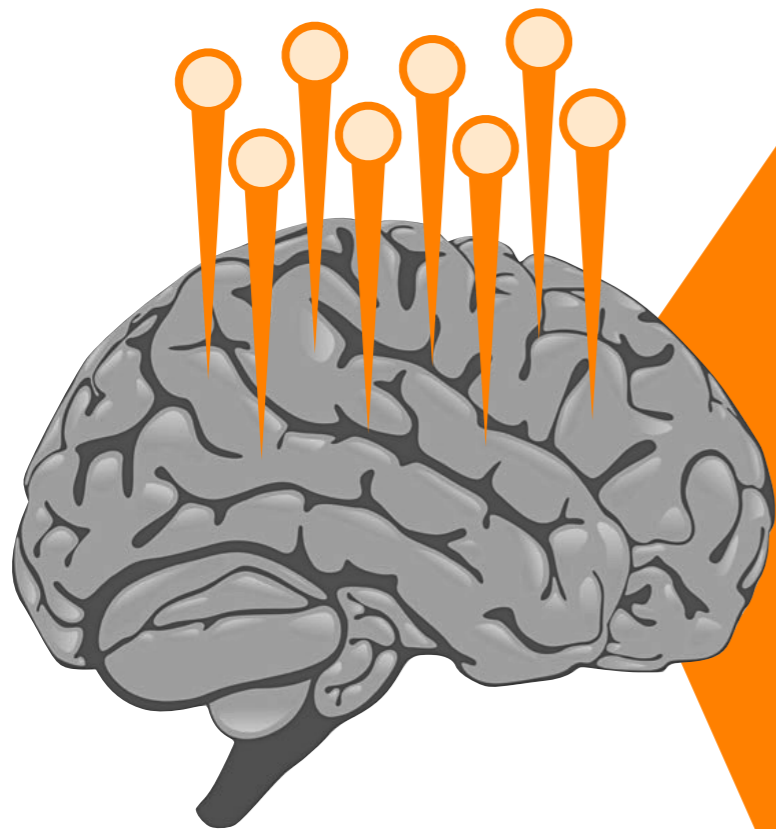
Pilarski Lab, Feb. 25, 2016  
(Pilarski and Sherstan, *BioRob*, 2016)



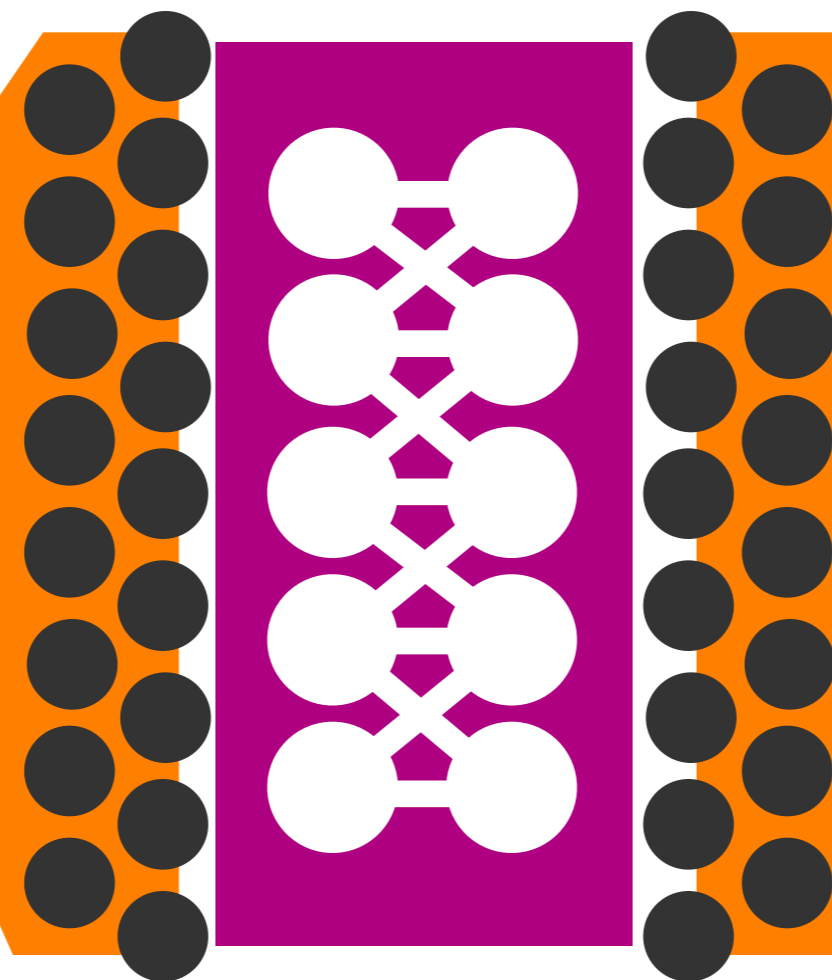
Human Body



Robot

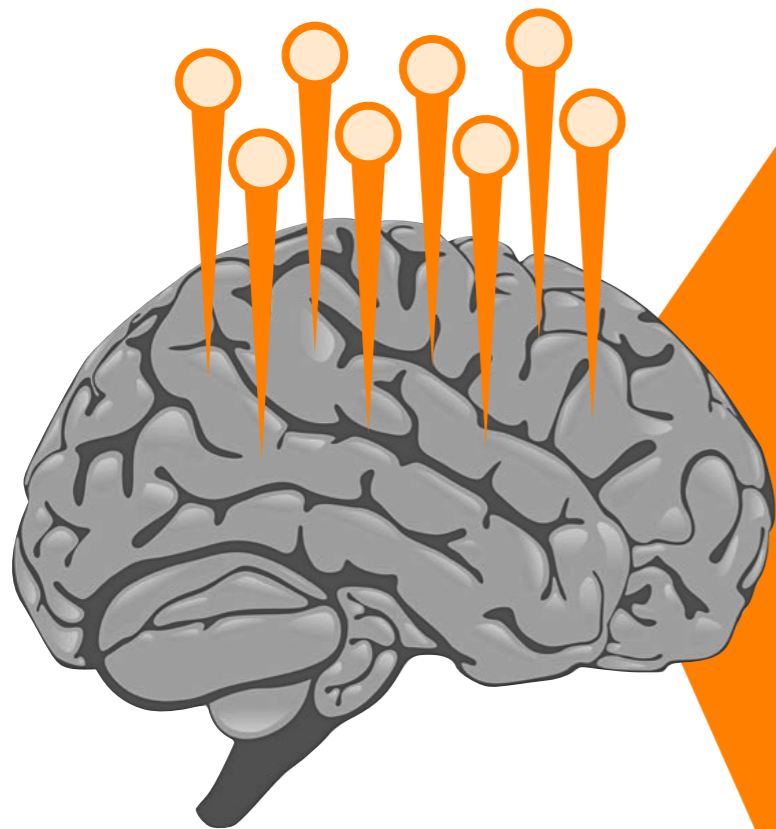


Human Mind

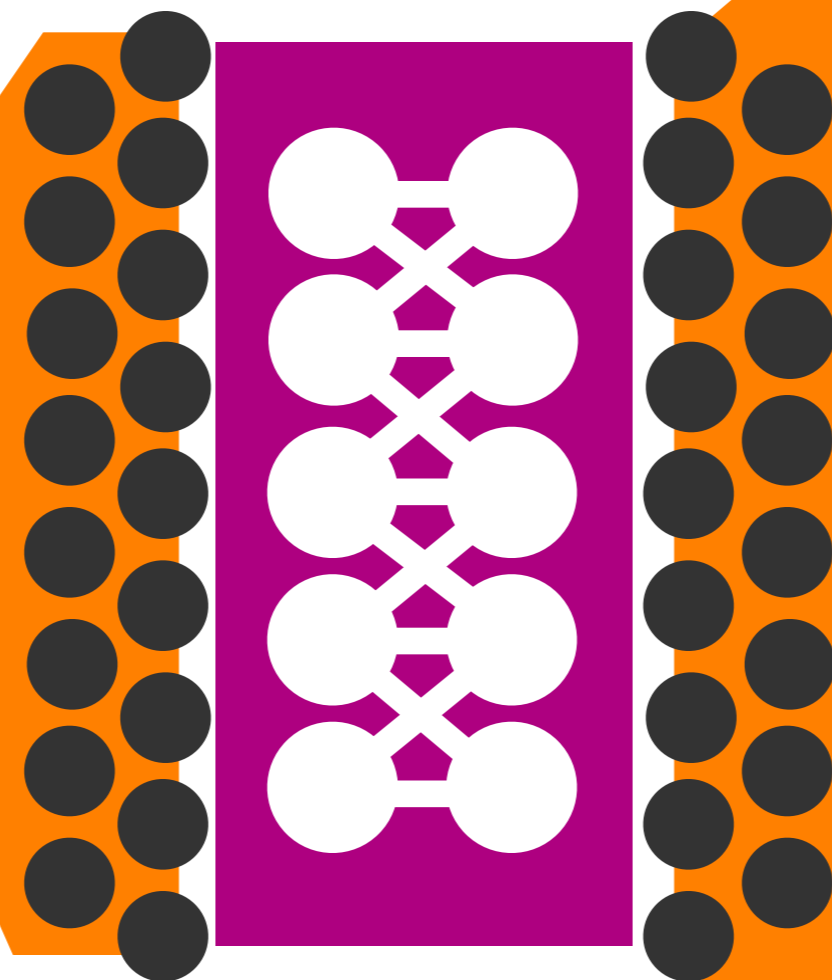


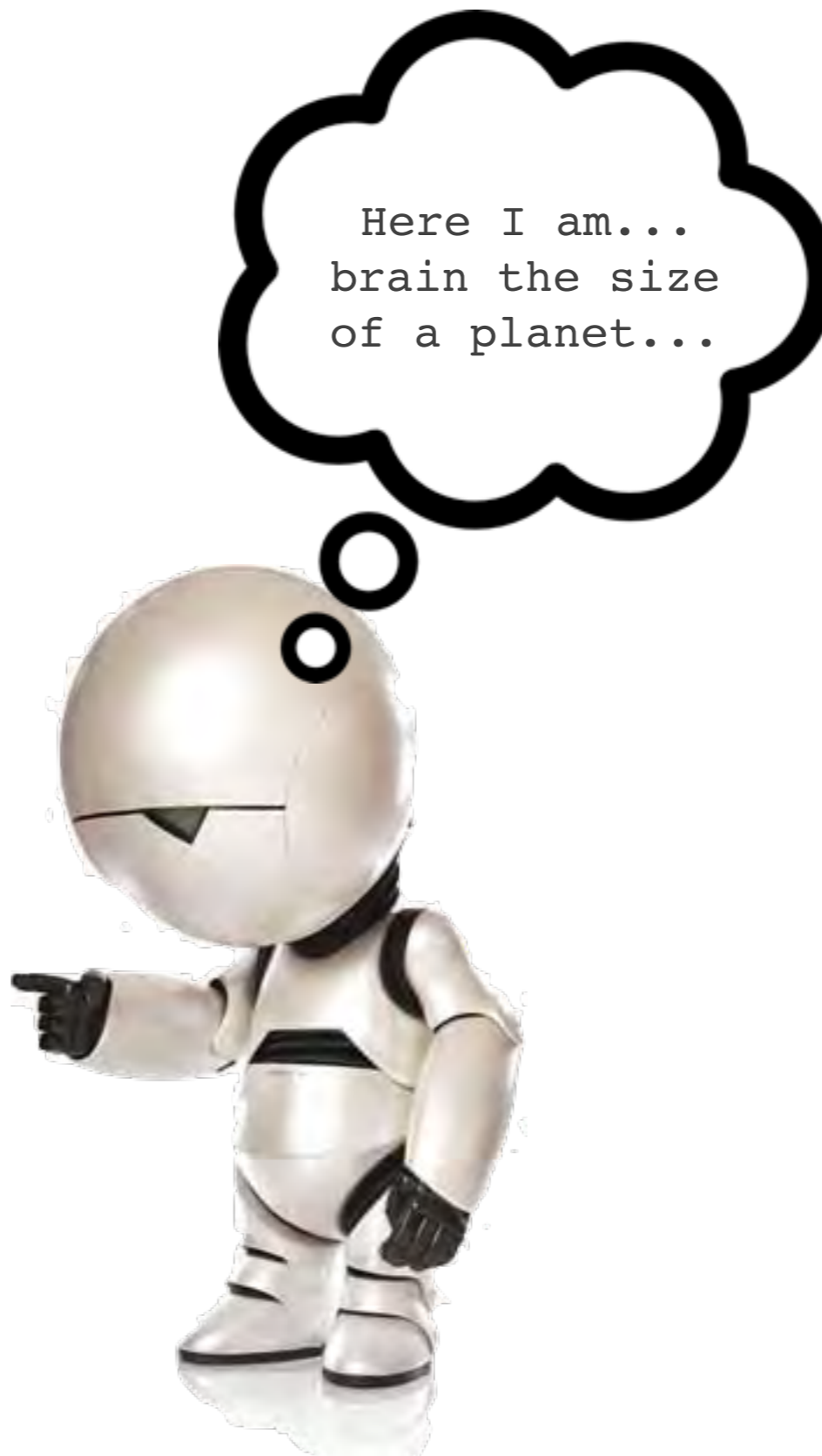
Synthetic Body





Human Mind





**Marvin** the paranoid android from THHGTTG.

# Collaborators

Ann Edwards  
Adam Parker  
Craig Sherstan  
Gautham Vasani  
Dylan Brenneis  
Jaden Travnik  
Alex Kearney  
Vivek Veeriah  
Nadia Ady  
Kory Mathewson  
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Aida Valevicius

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Dr. Craig Chapman  
Dr. Albert Vette  
Dr. K. Ming Chan  
Dr. Joseph Modayil  
Dr. Thomas Degris  
Riley Dawson  
Glyn Murgatroyd  
Mike Stobbe  
Anna Koop  
... and more!



**SMART  
NETWORK**

Sensory  
Motor  
Adaptive  
Rehabilitation  
Technology

# Funders and Partners

Canada  
Research  
Chairs



Canada Foundation  
for Innovation



This work was sponsored in part by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) BTO under the auspices of Dr. Doug Weber through the DARPA Contracts Management Office Grant/Contract No. N66001-15-C-4015.





# Communicative Capital for Prosthetic Agents

Patrick M. Pilarski, Richard S. Sutton, Kory W. Mathewson, Craig Sherstan, Adam S. R. Parker, Ann L. Edwards

*(Submitted on 10 Nov 2017)*

This work presents an overarching perspective on the role that machine intelligence can play in enhancing human abilities, especially those that have been diminished due to injury or illness. As a primary contribution, we develop the hypothesis that assistive devices, and specifically artificial arms and hands, can and should be viewed as agents in order for us to most effectively improve their collaboration with their human users. We believe that increased agency will enable more powerful interactions between human users and next generation prosthetic devices, especially when the sensorimotor space of the prosthetic technology greatly exceeds the conventional control and communication channels available to a prosthetic user. To more concretely examine an agency-based view on prosthetic devices, we propose a new schema for interpreting the capacity of a human-machine collaboration as a function of both the human's and machine's degrees of agency. We then introduce the idea of communicative capital as a way of thinking about the communication resources developed by a human and a machine during their ongoing interaction. Using this schema of agency and capacity, we examine the benefits and disadvantages of increasing the agency of a prosthetic limb. To do so, we present an analysis of examples from the literature where building communicative capital has enabled a progression of fruitful, task-directed interactions between prostheses and their human users. We then describe further work that is needed to concretely evaluate the hypothesis that prostheses are best thought of as agents. The agent-based viewpoint developed in this article significantly extends current thinking on how best to support the natural, functional use of increasingly complex prosthetic enhancements, and opens the door for more powerful interactions between humans and their assistive technologies.

Comments: 33 pages, 10 figures; unpublished technical report undergoing peer review

Subjects: **Artificial Intelligence (cs.AI)**; Human-Computer Interaction (cs.HC); Learning (cs.LG)

Cite as: **arXiv:1711.03676 [cs.AI]**

(or **arXiv:1711.03676v1 [cs.AI]** for this version)

## Submission history

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[v1] Fri, 10 Nov 2017 03:19:59 GMT (7466kb,D)

# Questions

... and thank you very much  
for your attention.

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<http://www.ualberta.ca/~pilarski/>

