



Singapore's  
Global  
University

14 Aug 2018

SHM 2018

# Robotics in Healthcare

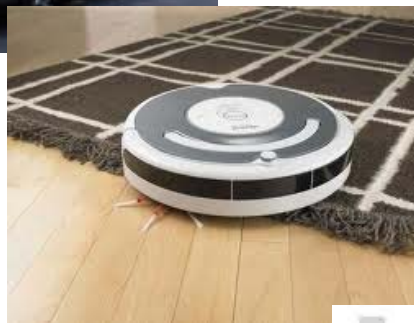
Dr Marcelo H Ang Jr

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Advanced Robotics Centre  
National University of Singapore



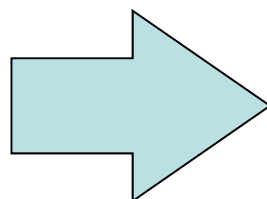
# Moment of Great Opportunities



2000s  
1980s, 1990s

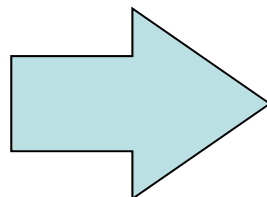






- ✧ Structured Environment
- ✧ Human-Robot Separation

Factories designed  
for robots



- ✧ Unstructured Environment
- ✧ Human-Robot Interaction

Intelligent Robot Adapting to  
Spaces Designed for Humans





## Autonomous Wheelchair in a Hospital Environment



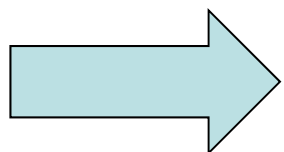
# Local Planning – our mobility scooter



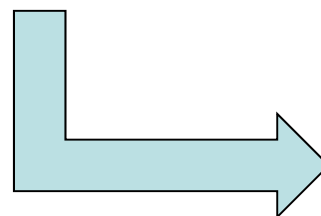


# Critical Needs

- ✧ Improving Productivity
- ✧ Ageing Population
- ✧ Manpower for Higher Value Added Services



Robotics is a Key Solution

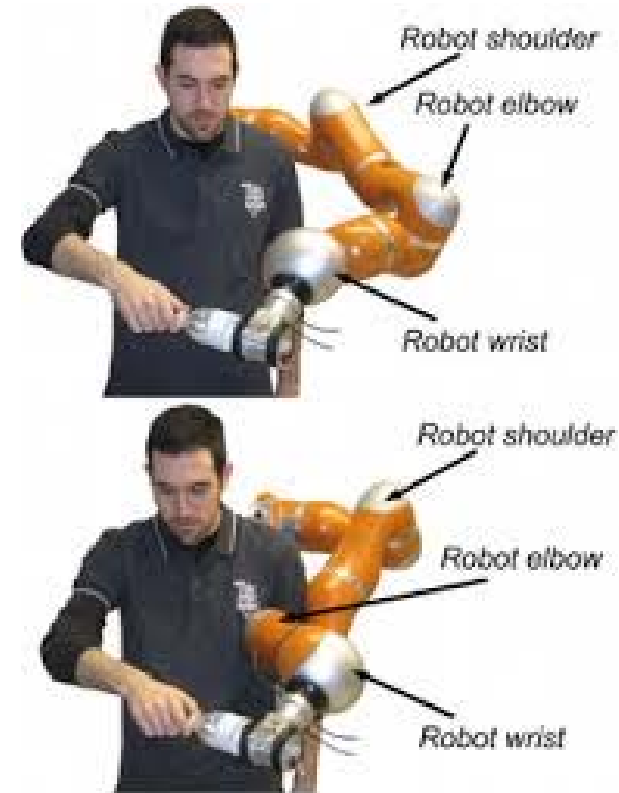


The 5 D's



# Human-Centered Collaborative Robotics

- ✧ Develop the generic scientific foundations, technologies and experimental platforms that enable natural interaction and collaboration between robots and humans
  - What is the right level of autonomy?
  - How best to interact and collaborate?
- ✧ Apply them to compelling areas
  - high societal and economic impact







# Industrial Robots: From Structured Environments to Unstructured & Human Environments

- ✧ Is Precision Motion Control Enough?
- ✧ What is the role of Force Control?
- ✧ Do we need new Design of Robots?
- ✧ Do we needed higher forms of intelligence?



# Robotics in our daily lives

- ✧ Activities of Daily Living
- ✧ Social companionship
- ✧ Assistive Devices
- ✧ Exercise Devices
- ✧ Anytime, anywhere
- ✧ Hospital → Community → Workplace  
→ Home



# What's needed?

## ✧ Robotic Mechanisms

- Inherently safe
- Friendly
- Easy to use

**Soft Robotics**

## ✧ Intelligence

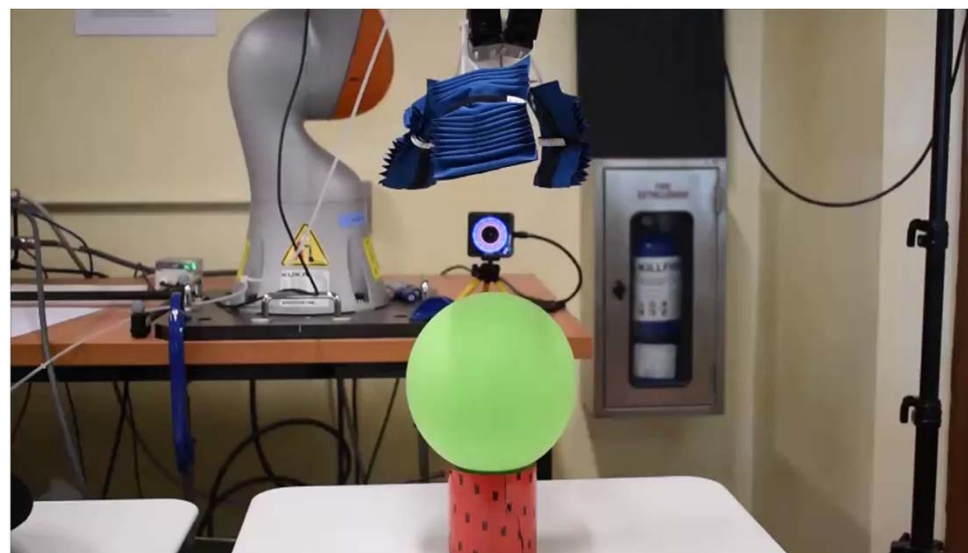
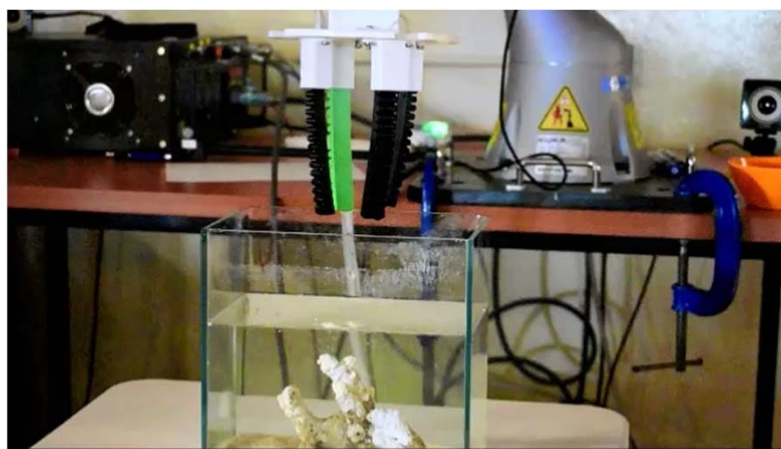
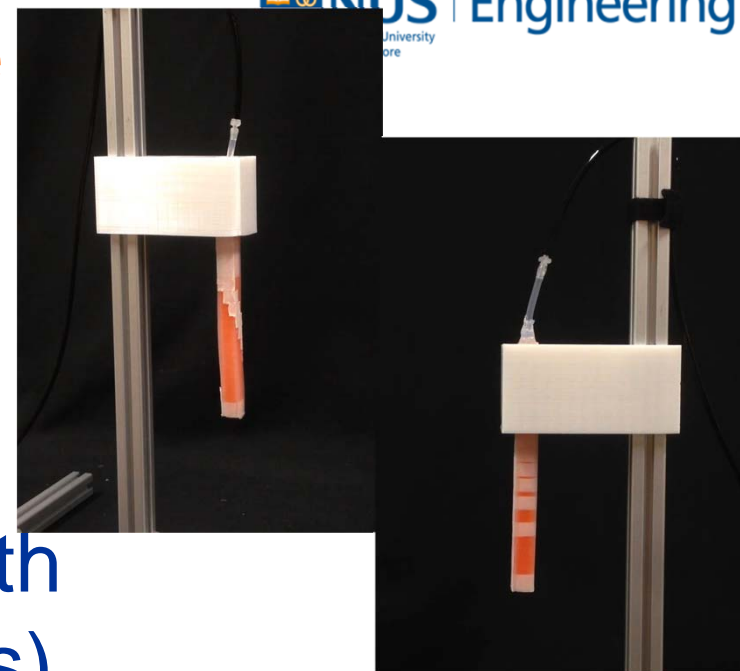
- Sensing and perception
- Intelligent decisions and actions
- Learning from experience (continuously)



# Mechanical Intelligence

## ✧ Physical Embodiment

- Intelligent Mechanics
- Physically Soft and Compliant
- Naturally comply to contact with environment (including humans)
- Inherently safe



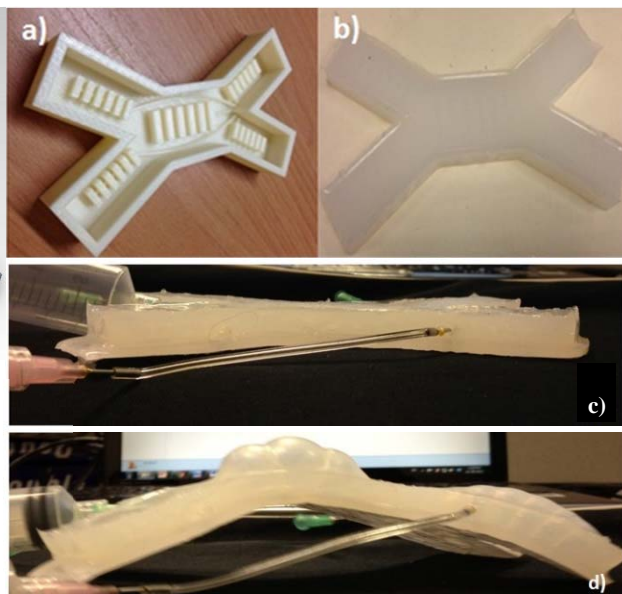
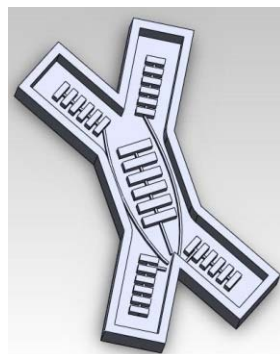
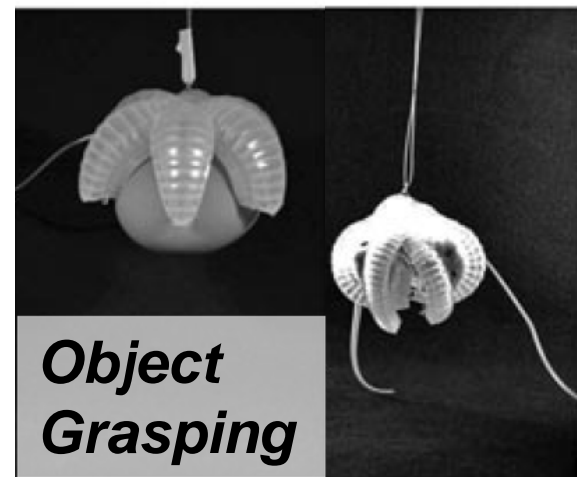
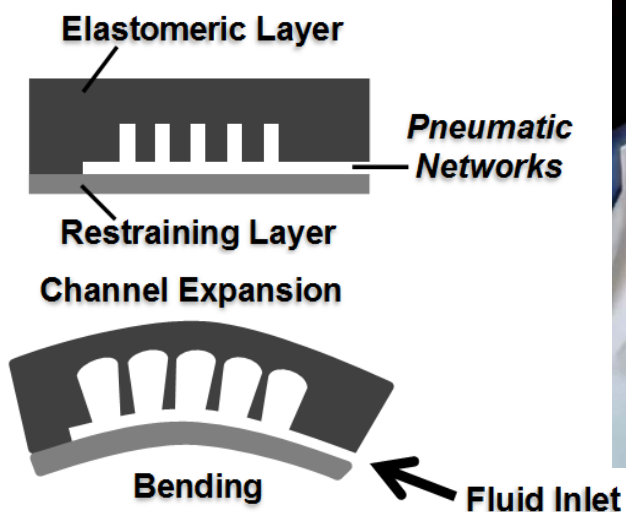
Soft Robotics



# Soft Robotics

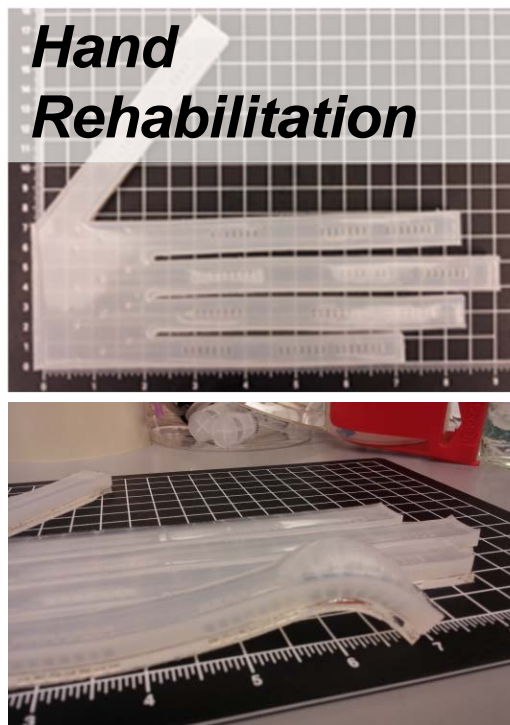
## Concept

## *Pressure-based Actuation*



**CAD**  
**3D-printing**  
**Mix & Cure**

## *Hand Rehabilitation*



## Why?

- *Compliant grasping*
- *Various actuations*
- *Scalable*
- *Mass production*
- *Quick fabrication*
- *MRI-safe*

## Applications

- *Grasping of organ or tissue structures*
- *Physical therapy*
- *Sensing and haptics*
- *Biodegradable*

**Raye CH Yeow (PhD)**

*Evolution Innovation Laboratory, Biomedical Engineering/SP-ARC*



# Soft Actuators



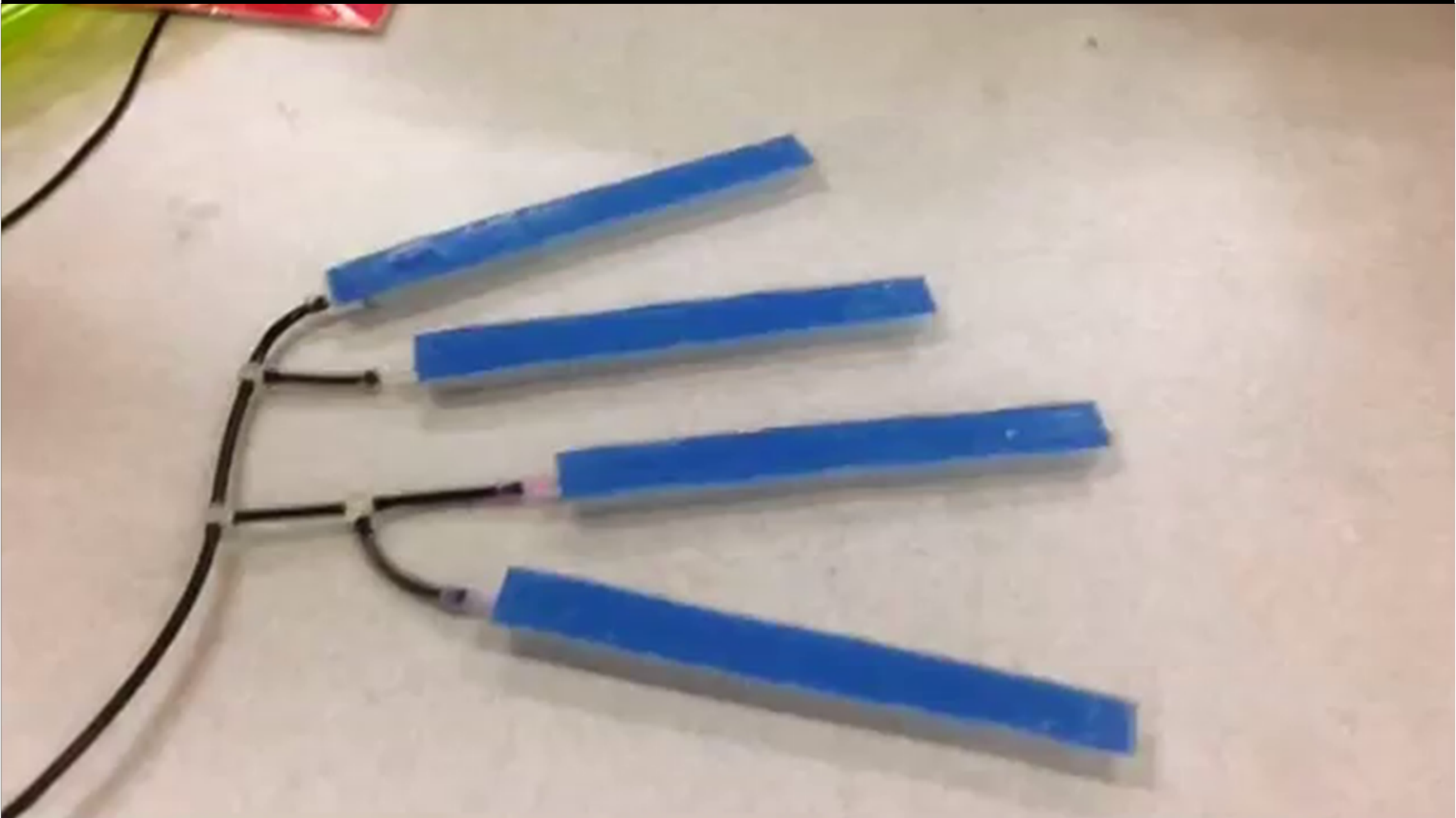


# Soft Robotics. Extending.





# Soft Robotics. Bending.



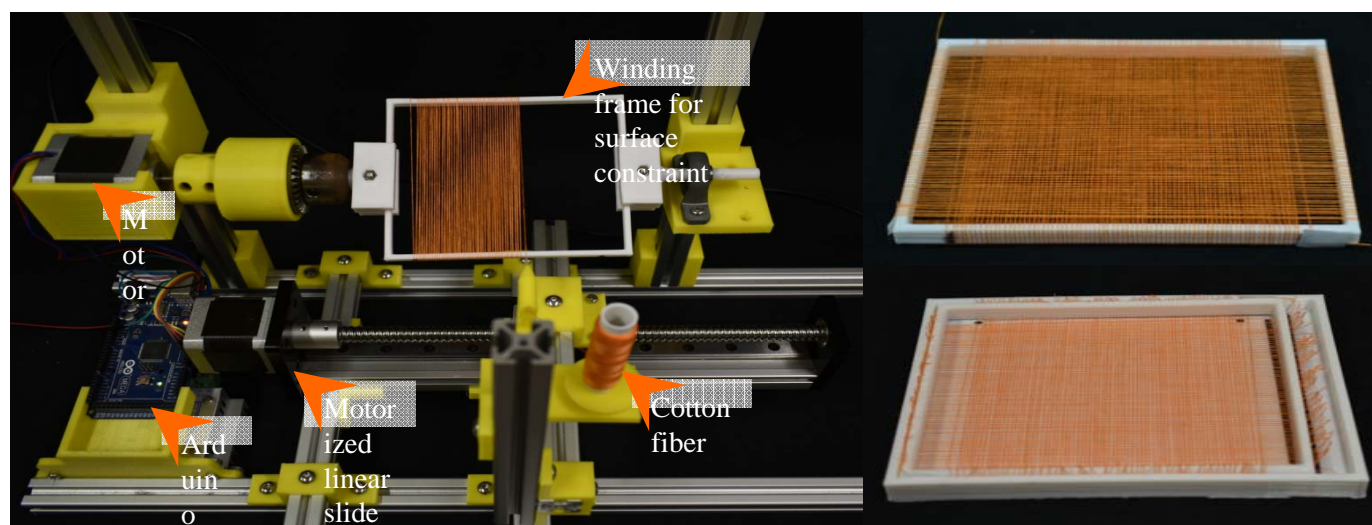
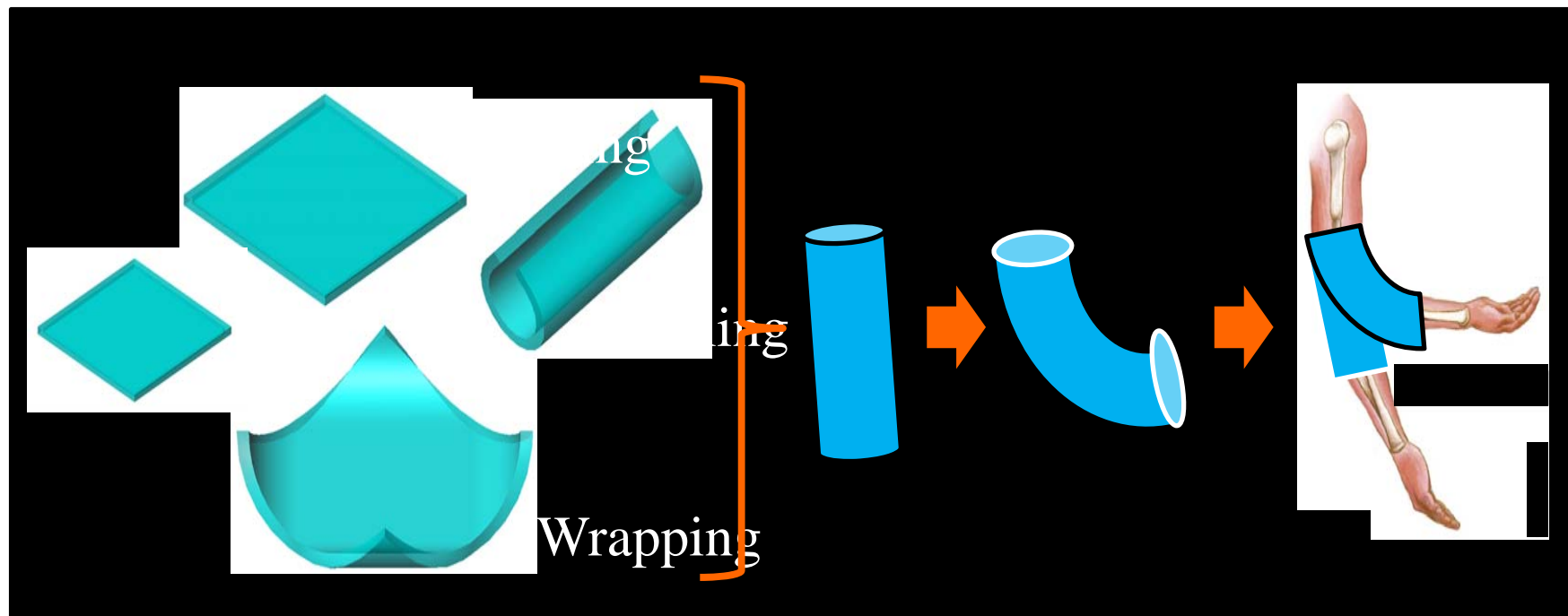


# Soft Robotics. Crawling.





# Soft Active Sheets





*Assist*

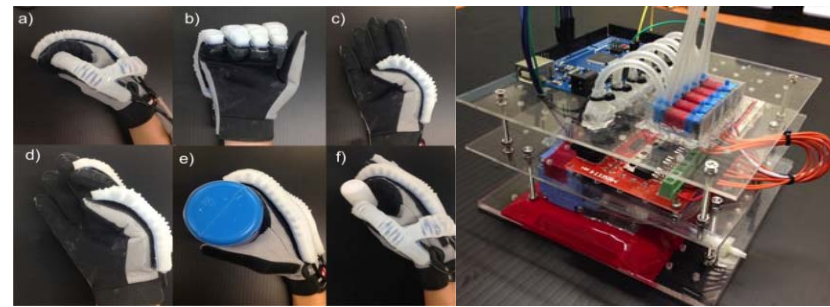
*MyoGlove*

*Soft Myoelectric Robotic Glove for Assistive Applications*





# Assist





*Assist*

# MirrorGloves

*Soft Sensor-Robotic Gloves for Mirror Therapy*



CHANNEL NEWSASIA





*Assist*

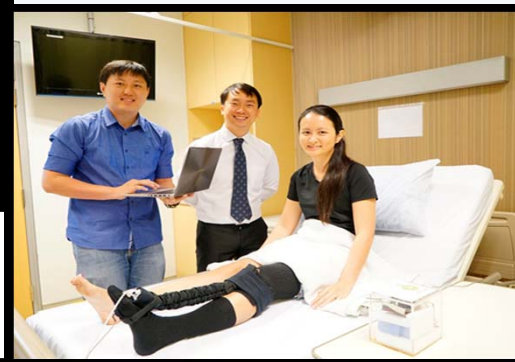
# *ExoSock*

*Robot-assisted Ankle Therapy*



Department of Biomedical Engineering  
Faculty of Engineering

THE STRAITS TIMES





*Assist*

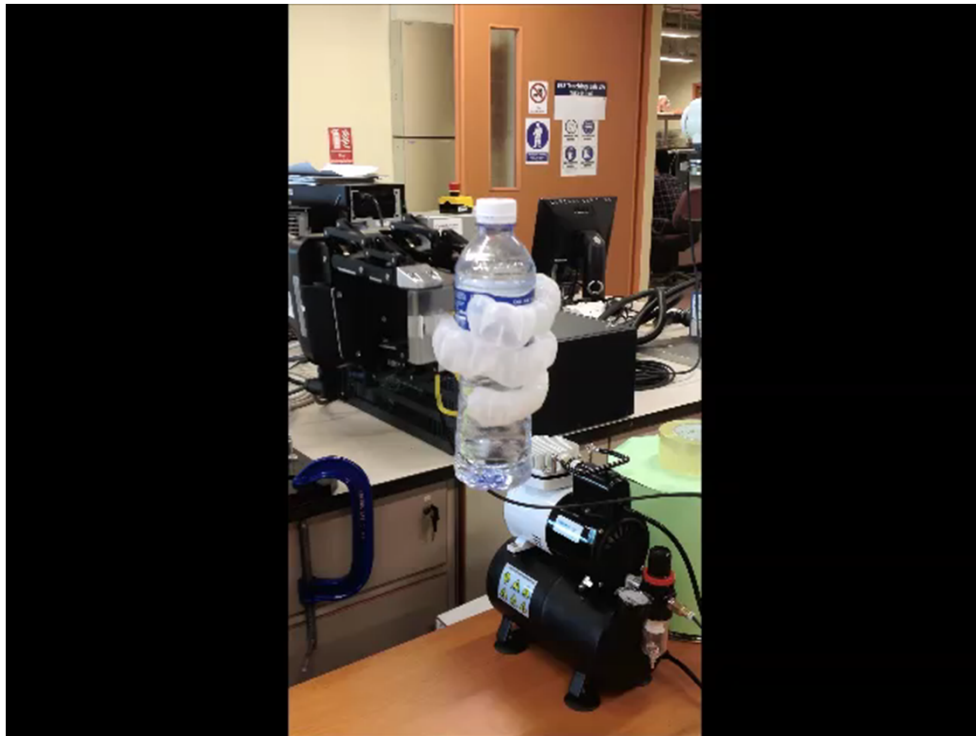
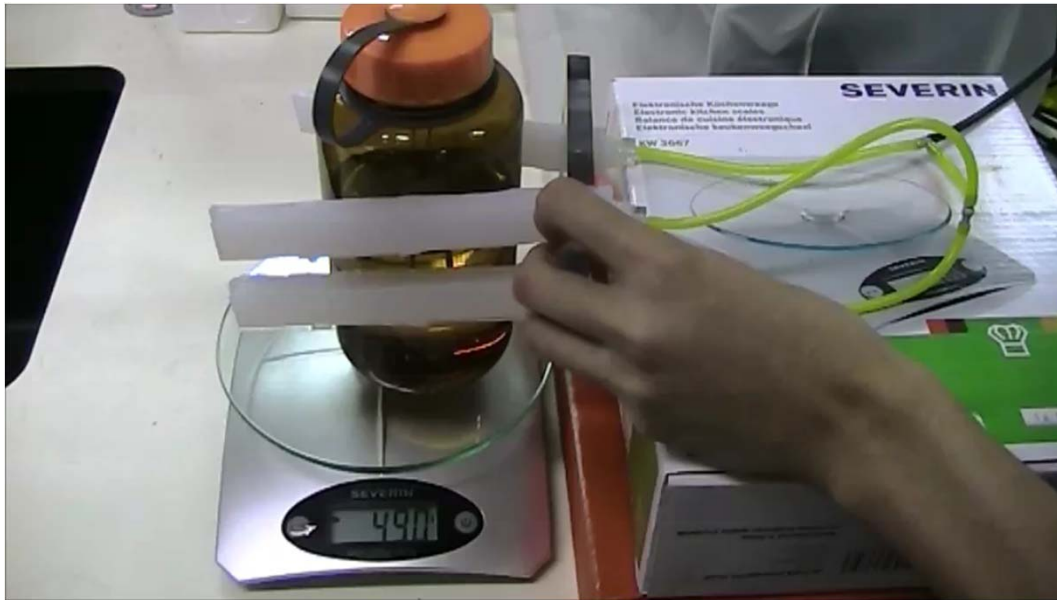
# *MirrorSocks*

*Soft Sensor-Robotic Socks for Mirror Therapy*

Controlling of Robotic Sock using  
contralateral limb with IMU







# Soft Grippers

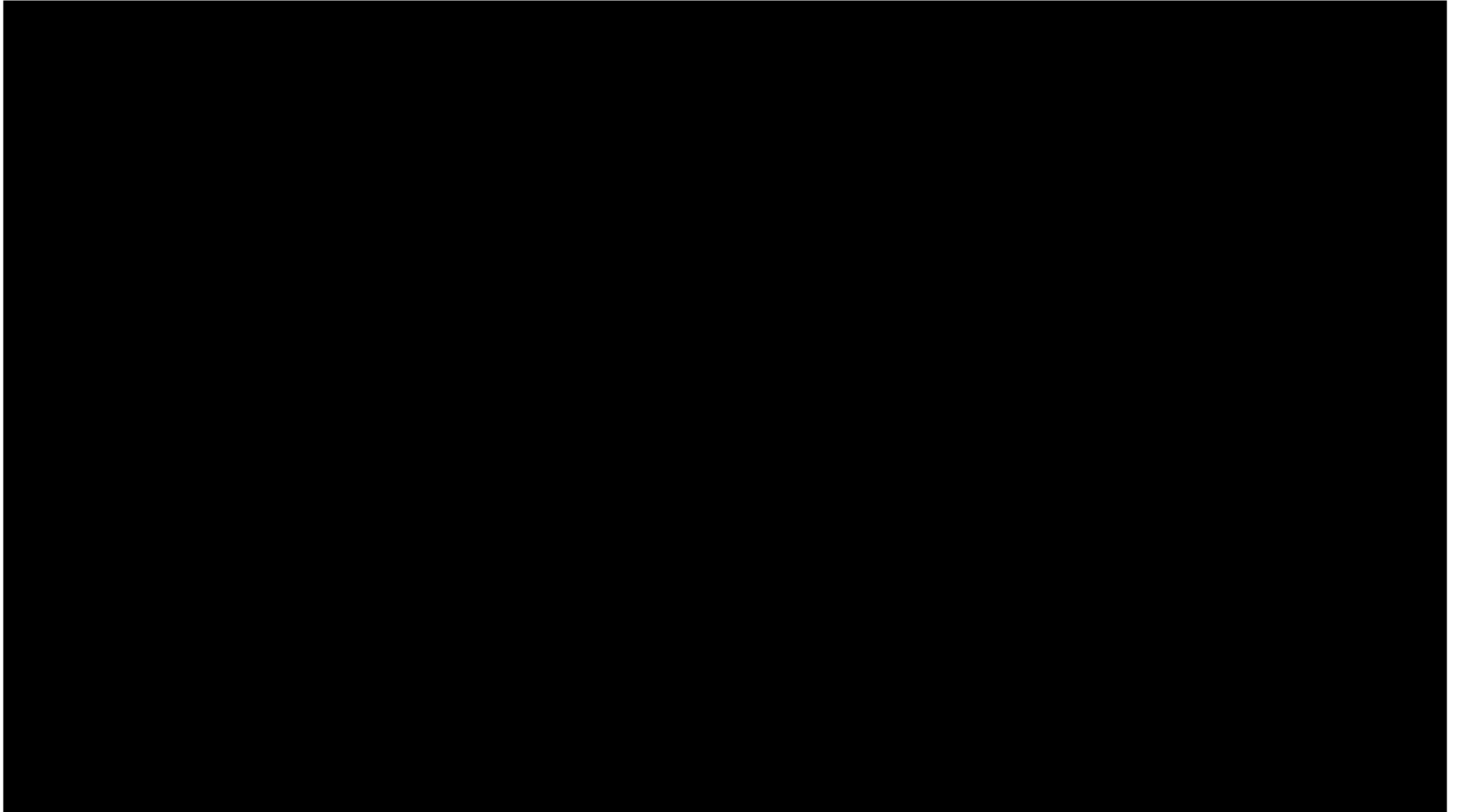


# 3D Printing – “Ninjaflex”

**Grip-hold-release tasks  
with 3D-printed soft  
robotic gripper**



# A third Arm?





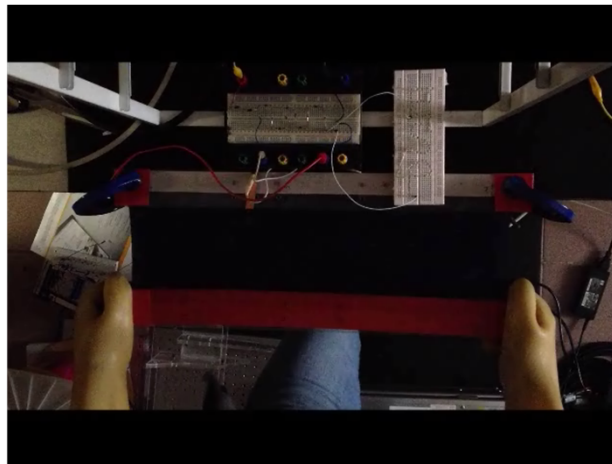
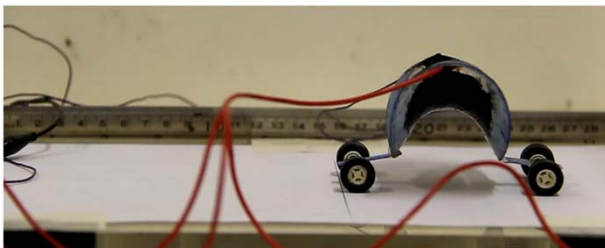
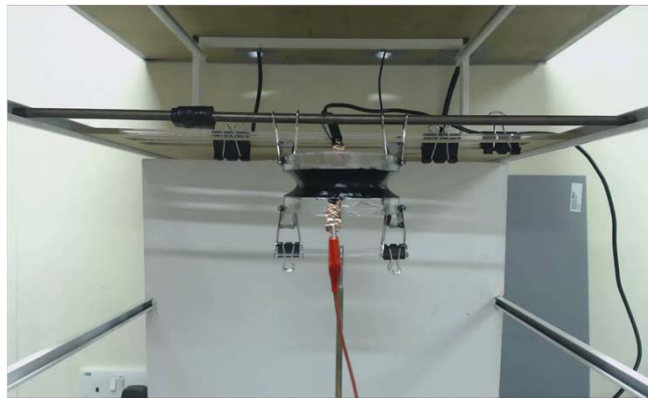
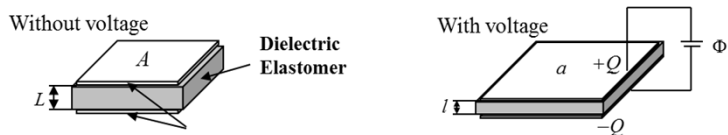
# *Fully-Fabric Soft Robotic Tail*





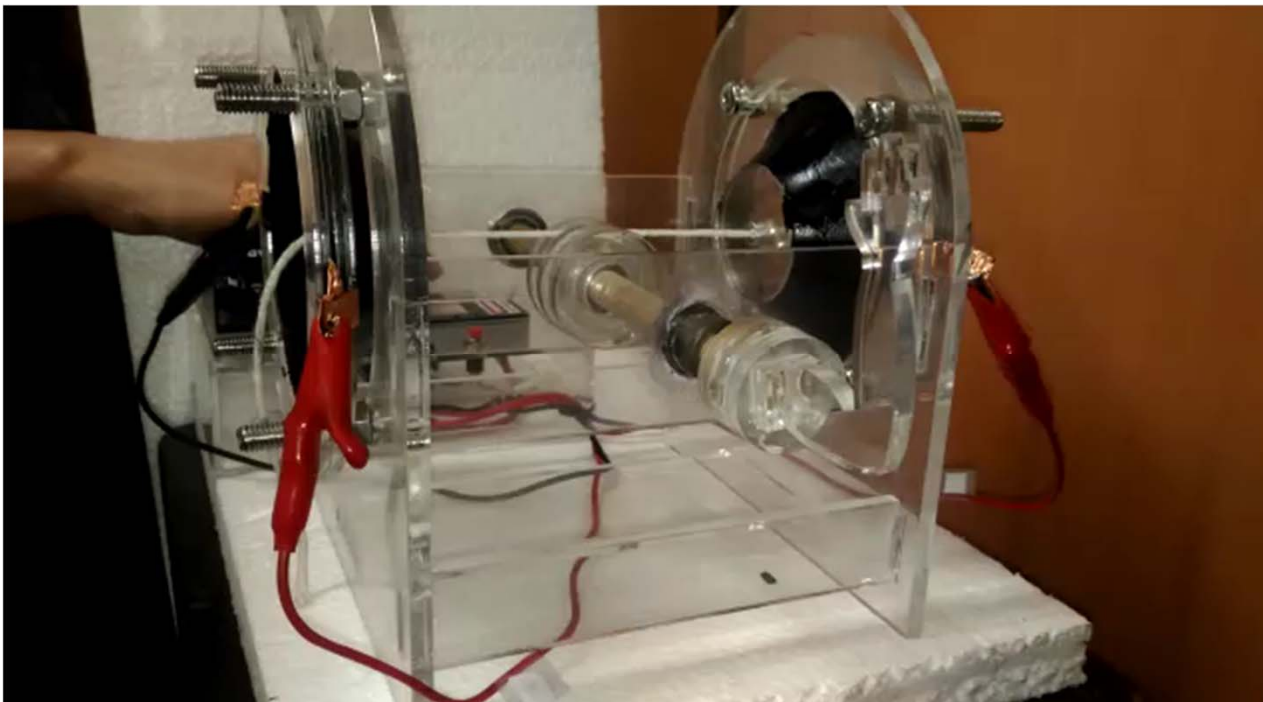
# Hardware: Intelligent Mechanics

Dielectric Elastomers  
3M VHB 9610 (double sided tape)



With Zhu Jian and Adrian Koh





with Adrian Koh Soo Jian





# -Man

**Domenico Campolo**

**Nanyang Technological University**

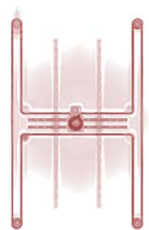
*School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering*

**Simone Krager\* and Marcelo H Ang Jr**

**National University of Singapore**

*Advanced Robotics Centre*



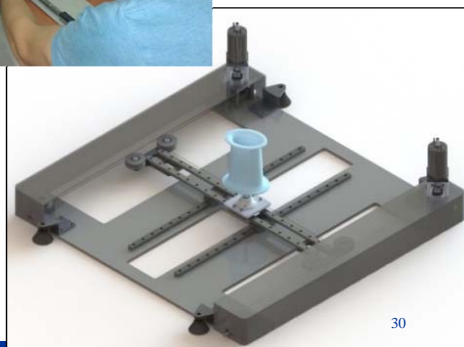
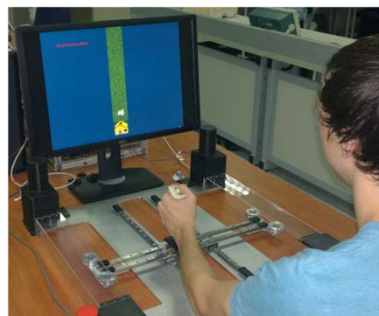


# H-Man



A novel, compact planar robot for (semi-) independent rehabilitation of upper limb sensorimotor impairments

- Light-weight ( $< 7$  kg)
- Max 30 N at the end-effector
- Table top / portable
- Cost-effective
- Easy to control and program
- Assistive/resistive tasks
- Intrinsically safe





## The H-Man

**Low-cost planar robot** for upper-limb rehabilitation in a **safe, productive** and **effective manner**, backed by **clinical validation**



- Novel Smart Algorithm** – Intensity & productivity
- Integrated sensors** – Continuous Assessment
- Safety** – Human Centric Design
- Low cost** – Standard Manufacturing

H-Man in Hospital



Development

Clinical validation: Pilot Study (12 stroke patients) + RCT  
(44 Stroke patients – on-going)

In use

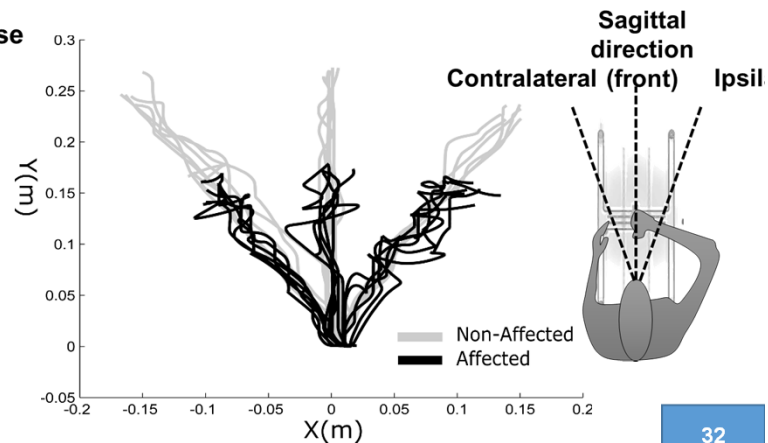
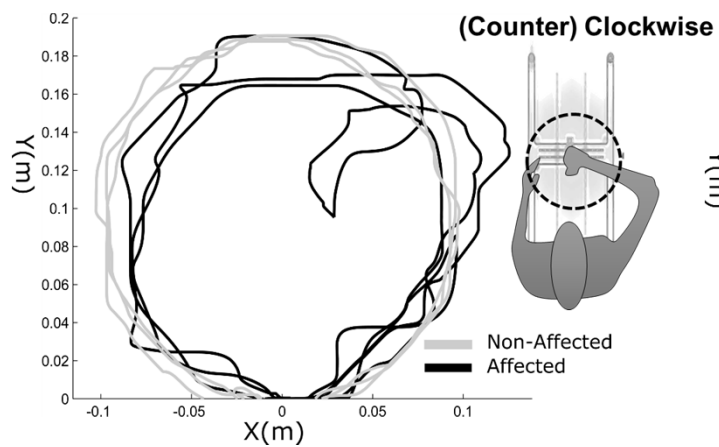
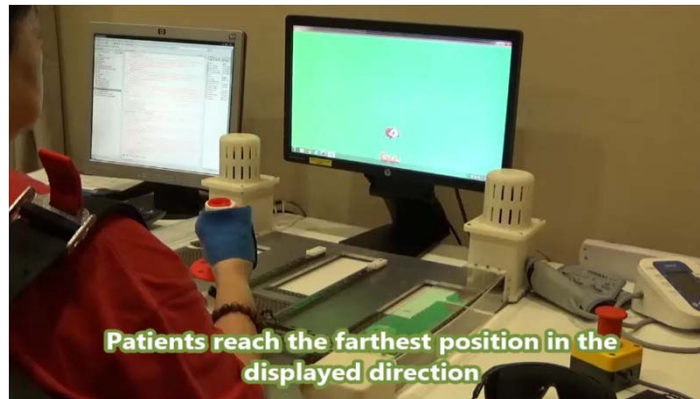


## H-Man and Quantitative Sensorimotor Assessment

### Coordination



### Range of Motion

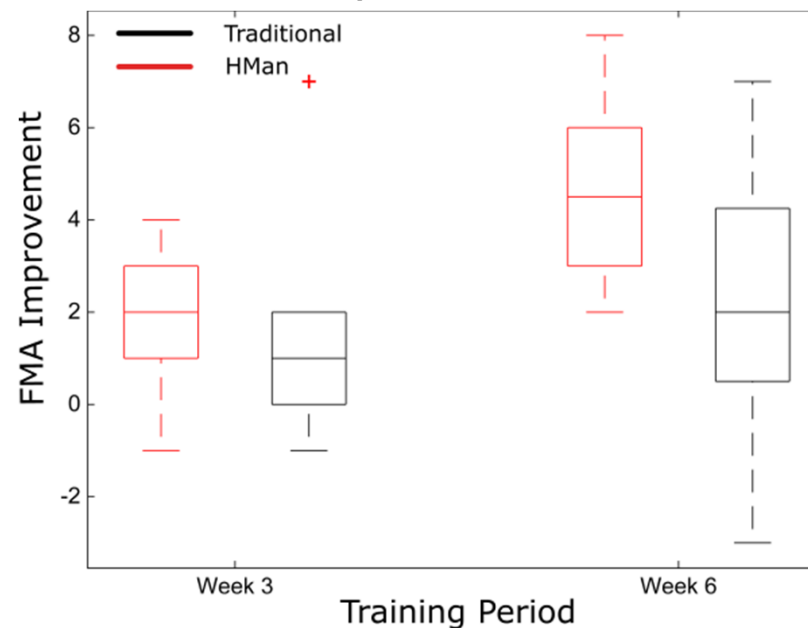




## Training with H-Man

- 6 Stroke patients on H-Man
- 7 Stroke patients on traditional 1-1 therapy
- **Equivalent to traditional therapy** after completion of randomized control trial

preliminary results  
on 13 patients out of 44





## Towards Commercialization

Clinically Validated Pain to Gain

### 1. Intensive Training

> 6 times more smart repetitions than conventional methods, 50 vs 300.

### 2. Enhanced Productivity

1 therapist > multiple patients, validated smart algorithm.



### 3. Continuous Assessment

Clinically validated metrics with integrated sensors



### 4. Safe & Portable

table top design with clinically validated safety in feasibility study.

### 5. Low cost

4 times cheaper than MIT-Manus



## H-Man Team



Domenico  
CAMPOLO



Simone  
KAGER



Asif  
HUSSAIN



Muhammad  
Azhar



Kumudu  
GAMAGE



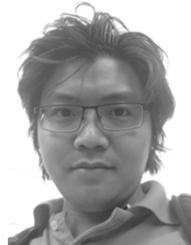
Sara  
CONTU



Mohammad  
ESMAEILI



Paolo  
TOMMASINO



PHAN  
Gia Hoang



Aamani  
BUDHOTA



Karen  
CHUA



Tan Tock Seng  
HOSPITAL

**overseas  
collaborators**

Domenico  
FORMICA



Etienne  
BURDET







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