Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

Institute for Anthropomatics and Robotics, High Performance Humanoid Technologies

> ⊠ asfour@kit.edu '• www.humanoids.kit.edu



Curriculum Vitae

Tamim Asfour

Humanoids in the Real World

Academic Career

- since 2012 **Full University Professor (W3)**, *Karlsruhe Institute of Technology*, Institute for Anthropomatics and Robotics, Chair for Humanoid Robotic Systems, High Performance Humanoid Technologies.
- since 2018 **Visiting Professor**, *National University of Singapore*, Faculty of Engineering, Advanced Robotics Center, Singapore.
- since 2016 **Distinguished Visiting Professor**, *Global Innovation Research*, Tokyo University of Technology and Agriculture, Tokyo, Japan.
- 2010 2012 **Adjunct Professor**, *Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech)*, College of Computing, School of Interactive Computing, Atlanta, USA.
- 2003 2011 Post-doctoral researcher, senior researcher and lecturer, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Institute for Anthropomatics and Robotics, Head of the Humanoids Research Group at KIT, Department of Informatics.
- 2001 2003 **Researcher and lecturer**, *Research Center for Information Technologies (FZI)*, Karlsruhe, Germany.
- 1996 2001 **Researcher and lecturer**, *University of Karlsruhe (TH)*, Department of Informatics, Germany.
- 1994 1996 Researcher and lecturer, Damascus, Syria.

Education

- 1997-2003 **Doctor of engineering degree (Dr.-Ing.)**, *Karlsruhe Institute of Technology*, Department of Informatics, Supervisors: Prof. Dr.-Ing. Rüdiger Dillmann and Prof. Dr.rer.nat. Alfred Schmitt.
- 1988-1994 **Engineering degree (Dipl.-Ing.)**, *Karlsruhe Institute of Technology*, Fakultät für Elektrotechnik und Informationstechnik, Control Systems Laboratory, Supervisor: Prof. Dr.-Ing. Volker Krebs and Prof. Dr.-Ing. Otto Föllinger.
- May 1986 **German language course and Studienkolleg (foundation course)**, *Goethe In*-Oct 1987 *stitute and University of Heidelberg, Germany.*
 - May 1985 Final secondary-school examinations (Abitur), Suweida, Syria.

Research Interests

Engineering humanoid robots: Engineering high performance 24/7 humanoid robots, co-joint perception-action representations, cognitive robotics, wearable robotics, software-hardware cognitive robot architectures, mechano-informatics of humanoids, system integration.

Grasping and dexterous manipulation: single, bimanual and whole-body grasping, motion and grasp planning, grasping known, familiar and unknown objects, vision and haptic based humanoid grasping, active vision and active touch, scene and object affordances, multimodal object and scene exploration, combining task and motion planning.

Learning from human observation and experience: robot programming by demonstration, imitation learning capturing and representation whole-body human motion, human motion analysis and synthesis, semantic segmentation of human demonstrations, motion primitives and motion alphabets, data-driven generation of whole-body humanoid motion, learning from sensorimotor experience.

Robotics Development Experience

Hardware

1999-2003	Developer of the humanoid Robots ARMAR-I (the first humanoid robot in Europe)
	and the humanoid Robots ARMAR-II

2004-2008 Chief developer of the humanoid robots ARMAR-IIIa, ARMAR-III	2004-2008	Chief developer	of the humanoid	robots ARMAR-IIIa.	. ARMAR-IIIb
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- 2009-2013 Chief developer of the humanoid robots ARMAR-4
- 2013-2016 Chief developer of the wearable humanoid robot ARMAR-5 (whole-body exoskelton)
- 2016-2018 Chief developer of the humanoid robot ARMAR-6
 - 2006 Development of the Karlsruhe Humanoid Head
- 2000-2001 Development of the under-actuated TUAT/Karlsruhe five-finger hand in cooperation with Prof. Toyama and Dr. N. Fukaya at the Tokai University in Japan
- 1998-1999 Development of the mobile service robot MORTIMER
- 2004-2008 Significant contributions to the design, position, torque, tactile sensor system and control of the fluidic Karlsruhe hand, which has been developed by Dr. S. Schulz and Prof. G. Bretthauer

Software

- since 2011 Chief concept developer of the architecture of the robotics software framework ArmarX, armarx.humanoids.kit.edu
- 2000-2011 Developer of the ARMAR robots software architecture and its implementation based on MCA
- since 2009 Development of the concept and architecture the KIT Whole-Body Human Motion Database, motion-database.humanoids.kit.edu
- since 2009 Development of concept of the Master Motor Map (MMM) with the reference model of the human body, mmm.humanoids.kit.edu

Awards and Scholarships

- 2019 **Offer of Full Professorship and Director**, *National University of Singapore*, *The NUS Robotics Institute*, Singapore.
- 2011 **Offer of Full Professorship**, Georgia Institute of Technology, College of Computing, School of Interactive Computing, Atlanta (USA) and Metz (France).
- 2018 **Faculty Teaching Award**, KIT-Department of Informatics (Fakultätslehrpreis).
- 2019 **Best paper award finalist**, *In International Conference on Humanoid Robots (Humanoids)*.
- 2018 **Best paper award finalist (Cognitive Robotics)**, In IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)).
- 2016 **Best paper award finalist**, *In International Conference on Humanoid Robots (Humanoids)*.
- 2015 **Best paper award finalist**, International Conference on Advanced Robotics (ICRA).
- 2014 **Offer from a giant IT company**, Leader of robotics research and development strategy.
- 2014 Best poster award, International Conference on Social Robotics (ICSR).
- 2014 Best poster award, NextMed Medice Meets Virtual Reality (MMVR).
- 2010 **Best paper award**, International Conference on Simulation, Modeling, and Programming for Autonomous Robots (SIMPAR).
- 2009 **Best paper award**, *IEEE-RAS International Conference on Humanoid Robots,* (Humanoids).
- 2003 **Award of the "Förderverein FZI"**, Research Center for Information Technologies, Karlsruhe, Germany, for outstanding dissertation in Informatics in 2003.
- 1986 **Best-10 Scholarship of Syria**, to study at the University of Karlsruhe, Germany.
- 1990-today **Best lecture award**, More than 30-time winner of the Best Lecture Prize at the KIT-Department of Informatics for the lectures "Mechno-Informatics and Robotics", "Practical Course on Mobile Robots", and "Practical Course Lego Mindstorms ", "Lecture and Exercises Digital Circuits Design"and "Lecture and Exercises Computer organization", Fakultätslehrpreis 2018.

Competences, Community Services and Editorial Work Competences

- since 2017 **Member**, *DFG grants Committee on Research Training Groups*, German Research Foundation (DFG).
- since 2016 **President**, German Robotics Society (DGR: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Robotik).
- 2013–2015 **Member**, Founding Board of Directors of euRobotics asibl.
- since 2017 **Scientific Spokesperson**, KIT Center Information · Systems · Technologies (KCIST), www.kcist.kit.edu.
- since 2015 Scientific Coordinator, research topic Robotics and Automation in KCIST.
- 2011-2016 **Deputy Spokesperson**, and member of Principle Investigator Board of the KIT-Focus Anthropomatics and Robotics.

since 2006 **Grant proposal and project evaluator**, for several funding agencies and universities such as German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG), European Commission (FET Open, H2020, FP7, Robotics and Cognitive Systems), European Research Council (ERC), Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) - Specially Promoted Research, Swiss National Science Foundation, France National Agency for Research (Agence Nationale de la Recherche, ANR, CNRS), the The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), the Danish Council for Strategic Research, Vienna Science and Technology Fund (WWTF), Foundation for Scientific Research Belgium (FWO),

Service to Academic Community

- 2018–now **Member**, Administrative Committee (AdCom) IEEE Robotics and Automation Society.
- 2016—now **Co-chair**, Chapter and International Activities Committee of IEEE Robotics and Automation Society.
- 2011–2014 Co-Chair, IEEE-RAS Technical Committee on Humanoid Robotics.
- 2009-now Chair, Steering Committee of the IEEE-RAS Conference on Humanoid Robotics.
- 2014—now **Moderator**, mailing lists robotics—worldwide (with Stefan Schaal, Jan Peters and Michael Mistry as well as humanoids—worldwide.
- since 2009 **Member**, *IEEE-RAS Technical Committees on Humanoid Robotics; Robot Learning; Mobile Manipulation; Human Movement Understanding; Robotic Hands, Grasping and Manipulation*.

Service to the University

- since 2015 **Sounding Board member**, *KIT 2025 umbrella strategy for research, education and innovation.*
- since 2017 **Scientific Spokesperson**, KIT Center Information · Systems · Technologies (KCIST), www.kcist.kit.edu.
- 2011-2016 **Deputy Spokesperson**, and member of Principle Investigator Board of the KIT-Focus Anthropomatics and Robotics.
- 2014-2019 **Council member**, *Division II Informatics, Economics, and Society at KIT*, Representative of the Institute of Anthropomatics and Robotics.
- since 2014 **Executive Board**, Foundation for Gifted Informatics Students in Karlsruhe.

Editorial Work

- 2019—now **Deputy Editor-in-Chief**, *IEEE-RAS Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L)*.
- 2014–now **Founding Editor-in-Chief**, *IEEE-RAS Humanoid Conference Editorial Board*.
- 2014—now **Co-Initiator**, and member of the Editorial Board of Frontiers in Humanoid Robotics.
- 2014-2015 **Guest Editor**, Frontiers in Robotics and AI, Special Issue Software Architectures for Humanoid Robotics.
- 2014-2015 Guest Editor, Advanced Robotics, Special Issue on Humanoid Robotics.

2007-2008 **Guest Editor**, International journal of humanoid robotics, Special Issue Toward Cognitive Humanoid Robots.

since 2016 Editor, IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters, RA-L.

2010-2014 Associate Editor, IEEE Transactions on Robotics.

2009—now **Associate Editor**, *IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation, ICRA*.

2010-now **Associate Editor**, *IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robot Systems, IROS*.

Reviewer, for several journals (IEEE Transactions on Robotics, Science Robotics, Nature Machine Intelligence, Humanoid Robots, Robotics Research, Autonomous Robots, Robotics and Autonomous Systems, Advanced Robotics, Humanoid Robotics, Transactions on System, Man and Cybernetics, Biological Cybernetics, PLoS ONE, Transactions on Autonomous Mental Development, Transaction of Mechantronics, Transactions on Industrial Electronics, Intelligent and Robotic Systems, Robotica, Systems Architecture, it Information Technologie and at-Automatisierungstechnik), ... and for several conferences (IEEE-RAS International Conference on Humanoid Robots, on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS), Robotics: Science and Systems (RSS), ACM/IEEE Intern. Conf. Human-Robot Interaction (HRI), IEEE Intern. Conf. on Development and Learning (ICDL), Intern. Conf. on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (AAMAS),

Program Committee

Program International Symposium on Assistive and Wearable Robotics, 2019

Chair IEEE International Conference on Humanoid Robots, 2013 International Conference on Cognitive Systems, 2008

General International Symposium on Robotics Research 2019

Co-Chair IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation, 2016
International Symposium on Robotics and German Conference on Robotics, 2016
IEEE International Conference on Humanoid Robots, 2018

Senior IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation, (2016, 2017, 2018) Program IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robot Systems (2015, 2016, 2018)

Committee

Program IEEE International Conference on Humanoid Robots (2007, 2009, 2011,2015)

Co-Chair IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robot Systems (2015, 2018)

International Symposium on Robot and Human Interactive Communication, 2011

Program International Symposium on Robotics Research (2015, 2017)

Committee IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robot Systems (2014, 2018)

International Conference on Robotics and Automation 2018

Robotics: Science and Systems, (2014, 2015, 2016)

DGR Days - Robotics in Germany (2010, 2011, 2013, 2016, 2017)

International Symposium on Robotics and German Conference on Robotics (2014, 2016, 2018)

International Conference on Cloud and Robotics, 2016

Annual German Conference on Al, 2012

Local Chair IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation, 2013
DGR Days, 2010
International Conference on Cognitive Systems, 2008

Organized Workshops/Symposia

- 2019 CYBATHLON Symposium on Assistive and Wearable Robotics, Karlsruhe, 2019 Workshop Bringing perception-based manipulation to the real world: standardizing robot manipulation learning, ICRA 2019 Workshop Different Approaches, the Same Goal: Autonomous Object Manipulation, IROS 2019
- Symposium Robotics AI Data Science versus Motion Intelligence, Academie des Science and National Akademie der Wissenschaften (Leopoldina), Paris Workshop The Intelligence of Touch: Haptics, Tactile, Interaction Building the Global Picture, IROS 2018
 Workshop Innovations in H2020 projects, European Robotics Forum, Tampere, Finland
- 2016 Workshop Robotics in the 21st century: Challenges and Promises, Göttingen, Germany
 Workshop Transfer of Cognitive Robotics Research to Industrial Applications, European Robotics Forum, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Workshop Transfer of Cognitive Robotics Research to Industrial Assembly and Service Robots, IROS 2015
 Workshop Semantic Policy and Action Representations (SPAR) for Autonomous Robots, IROS 2015
 Workshop Learning Reusable Concepts in Robotics, Rome, Italy, RSS 2015
- 2014 Workshop Cognitive Humanoid Robotics Research, Madrid, Spain, Humanoids 2014
 Workshop Active Visual Learning and Hierarchical Visual Representations for General-Purpose Robot Vision, Hong Kong, China, ICRA 2014
- 2013 Workshop Physical assistive devices: Model-based simulation and optimization,
 Tokyo, Japan, IROS 2013
 Workshop From Experience to Concepts and Back, Berlin, Germany, RSS 2013
- 2012 Workshop On Real World Challenges for Humanoids, Osaka, Japan, Humanoids 2012
- 2011 Workshop New Bodies for Cognitive Humanoids, Bled, Slovenia, Humanoids 2011
- 2010 Workshop Humanoids: What's next? Applications, Challenges and Perspectives, Nashville, USA, Humanoids 2010 Workshop Representations for object grasping and manipulation, Anchorage, USA, ICRA 2010
- 2009 Workshop Object-Action Complexes: Representations for Grounding Perception by Action and Grounding of Language by Interaction, Paris, France, Humanoids 2009 Workshop – Approaches to Sensorimotor Learning on Humanoid Robots, Kobe, Japan, ICRA 2009

- 2008 Workshop Imitation and Coaching in Humanoid Robots, Daejeon, Korea, Humanoids 2008
 - Workshop Robot Simulators: Available Software, Scientific Applications and Future Trends, Nice, France, IROS 2008
- 2007 Workshop Benchmarking in Humanoid Robotics, Pittsburgh, USA, Humanoids 2007
- 2006 Workshop Towards Cognitive Humanoid Robots, Genoa, Italy, Humanoids 2006
- 2005 Workshop Cognitive Architecture for Humanoids, Tsukuba, Japan, Humanoids 2005
- 2004 Workshop Building Humanoid Heads, Santa Monica, USA, Humanoids2004

Research Projects and Funding

German Research Foundation, DFG

2004–2012 **DFG, German Collaborative Research Center on Humanoid Robots (SFB 588)**, Scientific leader and coordinator of the project R1 (machatronics, control, motion and grasp planning, and system integration) and R6 (Body balancing and coordination of manipulation and locomotion)

Contributions: Specification, design and realisation of the humanoid robot series (ARMAR-I, ARMAR-II, ARMAR-IIIa, ARMAR-IIIb, ARMAR-IV), software and hardware architecture, kinematics control, position/force control. Visual servoing, vision-based grasping, single and dual arm manipulation, motion planning, programming by demonstration, system integration. Leader of the working groups "Demonstrator and System Integration"and "Robot Design (Konstruktionsbüro)", budget 1.106.900 €.

www.sfb588.uni-karlsruhe.de

2010– DFG, Transregional Collaborative Research Center on Invasive Computing (SFB/TR 89), Scientific leader and Principle Investigator, project D1 (Invasive Software-Hardware Architectures for Robotics)

Contributions: Implementation of a cognitive robot control architecture with its different processing hierarchies and exploration of self-organization techniques on many-core systems, speculative resource management and resource-aware robot motion planning, budget 518.400 €.

www.invasic.de

2012–2019 **DFG, Priority Program on Autonomous Learning (SPP 1527)**, Scientific leader and Principle Investigator, REBA (Robots Exploring their Bodies Autonomously) and REBA+ (REBA (Robots Exploring Tools as Extension of their Bodies Autonomously)

Contributions: Learning of sensorimotor maps for the body schema of humanoid robots, tool use, integration of vision and haptics to allow robot to explore and learn about their own bodies, budget $400.000 \in$.

autonomous-learning.org

Federal Ministry for Education and Science in Germany BMBF

2019–2022 **BMBF, OML**, *Organic Machine Learning*, Scientific leader and coordinator the tasks related to incremental learning learning in the context of robot programming by demonstration.

Contributions: Methods for learning skills from human demonstration and their adaptation based on experience and verbal human instruction. This includes learning object-action relations as well as bidirectional mapping between whole-body human motion and natural language., budget 750.000 €.

2018–2022 **BMBF, Competence Center ROBDEKON**, *Robotic systems for the decontamination in hazardous environments*, Scientific leader and coordinator the development of new intelligent hand prostheses

Contributions: Methods for visual perception, extraction of grasp affordances, semantic scene understanding, grasp and motion planning, autonomous execution of decontamination tasks as well as the design of robotic-centered solutions for decontamination tasks., budget 750.000 €.

2016–2021 **BMBF, Innovation Cluster INOPRO**, *Intelligent Orthetics und Prosthetics for an Improved Human-Machine-Interaction*, Scientific leader and coordinator of the development of new intelligent hand prostheses.

Contributions: Development of advanced personalized hand prostheses with semiautonomous grasping capabilities based on experience gained from the research in the area of humanoid robotics. Additional contribution to the control mechanisms of lower limb protheses and ortheses, budget $1.476.099 \in$.

European Union, Robotics, Cognitive Systems and Al

2017–2021 **EU, TERRINet**, *TERRINet*: The European Robotics Research Infrastructures Network, Principle Investigator, H2020 Integrated EU-Project

Contributions: The European Robotics Research Infrastructures Network (TERRINet) proposal aims at building a world-class network with harmonised services and complementary capabilities where talented researchers from academia and industry worldwide will have access and will be able to explore new ideas and establish personal and joint projects; to get in contact with and be inspired by leading and creative scientists, technologists, experts and industrial representatives; to share information and gain knowledge for boosting their scientific research and potential for technological innovation. KIT leads the activities on setting up the Robotics Research Infrastructure, grant no. 730994, budget 385.250 €.

2017–2021 **EU, IMAGINE**, *IMAGINE*: Robots Understanding Their Actions by Imagining Their Effects, Principle Investigator, H2020 Integrated EU-Project

Contributions: Development of a multi-functional gripper for disassembly of electromechanical devices and appliances including its hardware and software architecture. Grasp planning and grasp synthesis, learning action representations for adaptive disassembly actions from human observation; system integration and benchmarking, grant no. 731761, budget $667.500 \in$.

www.imagine-h2020.eu

2015–2020 **EU, SecondHands**, *A Robot Assistant for Industrial Maintenance*, Principle Investigator, H2020 Integrated EU-Project

Contributions: Mechatronics Development of a humanoid robot for maintenance tasks in warehouse environment, highly integrated sensor-actor-controller units with torque control, under-actuated five-finger hands, software and hardware architecture, grasping of familiar and unknown objects, handover tasks, mobile manipulation, robot software and hardware control architecture, grant no. 611909, budget 2.249.750 €. www.secondhands.eu

2015–2018 **EU, TimeStorm**, Mind and Time – Investigation of the temporal attributes of human-machine synergetic interaction, Principle Investigator, H2020 FET-Proactive EU-Project

Contributions: Develop methods to endow robots with the capability to experience the flow of time which is still largely unexplored. The inability of existing systems to perceive time constrains their potential understanding of the inherent temporal characteristics of the dynamic world, which in turn acts as an obstacle to their symbiosis with humans. Equipping artificial agents with temporal cognition establishes a new framework for the investigation and integration of knowing, doing, and being in artificial systems, grant no. 641100, budget $543.750 \in$. timestorm.eu

2015–2017 **EU, I-Support**, *ICT-Supported Bath Robots*, Principle Investigator, H2020 EU-Project, Personalizing Health and Care (PHC)

Contributions: Methods for learning motor skills from human observation and their force-based adaptation for the I-SUPPORT robotic shower technology for senior citizens who are increasingly getting frail and, are still able to live independently but experience mild or medium functional disabilities and increasing difficulty in performing daily activities, notably showering or bathing, grant no. 643666, budget $412.875 \in$.

www.i-support-project.eu

2013–2017 **EU, WALK-MAN**, Whole-body Adaptive Locomotion and MANipulation, Principle Investigator, FP7 Integrated EU-Project

Contributions: Multimodal perception for loco-manipulation tasks and the representation of whole-body affordances. Learning representation of sensorimotor experience, which binds objects, action in loco-manipulation tasks. Transfer of grasping representations to balancing, grant no. 611832, budget 968.760 €.

www.walk-man.eu

2013–2016 **EU, KoroiBot**, *Improving humanoid walking capabilities by human-inspired mathematical models, optimization and learning*, Principle Investigator, FP7 Integrated EU-Project

Contributions: Establishment of large scale human walking database and the development of human and humanoid models as basis for general motion and transfer of human motion to humanoid robots with different morphologies, detection and classification of disturbances applied to humans during walking, human-inspired strategies for push recovery, role of prediction in walking., grant no. 611909, budget $543.580 \in$.

www.koroibot.eu

2011–2015 **EU, Xperience**, *Robots Bootstrapped through Learning from Experience*, **Coordinator** and Principle Investigator, FP7 Integrated EU-Project

Contributions: learning from experience, structural bootstrapping, bimanual manipulation, haptic exploration, cooperative perception for scene interpretation, action synthesis using natural language processing techniques, cognitive control architecture for humanoid robots and system integration. Work in a interdisciplinary consortium (neuroscience, linguistic, cognitive vision and robotics), grant no. 270273. Total budget $7.634 \in M$ millions, own budget: $1.8 \in M$ millions.

www.xperience.org

2011–2012 **EU, RoboCom**, *European Flagship initiative on* Robot Companion for Citizen, Coordinator of the working group *Body* and Wearable Companions, FET Flagship *Contributions:* Roadmap for bodyware for future robotics technologies, in particular wearable robot technologie, grant no. 284951, budget 50.289 €.

www.robotcompanions.eu

2008–2012 **EU, GRASP**, Emergence of Cognitive Grasping through Emulation, Introspection, and Surprise, Scientific Manager and Principle Investigator, FP7 Cognitive Systems Integrated EU-Project

Contributions: Grasp planning, human-inspired grasping, imitation of human grasping activities, learning of body schema, simulation, system integration, grant no. 215821, budget 836.960 €.

www.grasp-project.eu

2006–2010 **EU, PACO-PLUS**, Perception, Action and Cognition through Learning of Object-Action Complexes, **Co-coordinator** and Principle Investigator, FP6 Cognitive Systems Integrated EU-Project

Contributions: Technical implementation of Object-Action Complexes (OAC, pronounced: oak) - a new paradigm proposed in the project to capture the interaction between objects and associated actions. OACs are to be used as unified framework and basis for symbolic representations of sensorimotor experience. Visuo-haptic object exploration. Action representations for goal-directed imitation. Cognitive control architecture and system integration. Work in a interdisciplinary consortium (neuroscience, cognitive psychology, linguistic, cognitive Vision and robotics) , grant no. 027657, Total budget 7.477.200 € millions, budget 1.336.538 €.

www.paco-plus.org

2006–2009 **EU, InterLink**, European Coordination Action InterLink (International Cooperation Activities in Future and Emerging Information and Communication Technologies), Co-coordinator of the working group Intelligent and Cognitive Systems, FET Open

Contributions: Report on road-mapping research in Intelligent and Cognitive Systems to serve as input for Horizon 2020 programm of the European Union, grant no. 034051, budget 60.109 €.

interlink.ics.forth.gr

List of Talks

Plenary and Keynote Lectures

- 06.11.2019 IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS), Engineering Humanoids, Macau
- 20.09.2016 IEEE International Conference Developmental Learning and Epigenetic Robotics, Engineering humanoids that grasp, learn and perceive time, Cergy-Pontoise/Paris, France
- 16.12.2013 International Symposium on Robotics Research, *It's All about Force and Humanoids*, Singapore
- 01.09.2009 International Symposium on Robotics Research, From Sensorimotor Primitives to Imitation and Manipulation Strategies in Humanoid Robots, Luzern, Switzerland
- 02.08.2008 IEEE International Symposium on Robot and Human Interactive Communication, *Manipulation Strategies and Imitation Learning in Humanoid Robots*, Munich, Germany

Invited Talks

2006-now More than invited 150 scientific talks at workshops, conferences, etc.

2006-now More than invited 75 talks for public

Teaching

I developed the curriculum for several new lectures at KIT and contributed significantly to existing lectures in robotics and computer engineering.

Robotics, Cognitive Systems and Artificial Intelligence

- 2012 Lecture Robotics I: Fundamental of Robotics (winter term)
- 2012–2015 Lecture Robotics II: Robot Programming (summer term)
 - 2016 Lecture Robotics II: Humanoid Robotics (summer term)
 - 2015 Lecture Robotics III: Perception in Robotics (summer term)
 - 2014 Lecture Wearable Robotics Technologies (summer term)
 - 2014 Lecture Mechano-Informatics and Robotics (winter term)
 - 2012 Seminar Humanoid Robotics (winter term)
 - 2015 Seminar Motion in Man and Machine (summer term)
 - 2012 Practical course Robotics (summer term)
 - 2012 Practical course Humanoid Robotics (winter term)
 - 2012 Practical course Mobile Robots (summer term)

2012- Practical course - Lego Robots (winter term)
 2012- Practical course - Praxis of Software Development (winter and summer term)
 2014- Special course - Praxis of Research (winter and summer term)
 2005-2011 Lecture - Robotics I: Teaching assistant to Prof. R. Dillmann (winter term)
 Computer Engineering
 2012- Lecture - Digital Circuit Design (Every winter term)
 2012- Lecture - Computer Organization (Every summer term)
 1996-2011 Teaching assistant of the Lecture - Digital Circuit Design (winter term)
 1996-2011 Teaching assistant of the Lecture - Computer Organization (summer term)
 Robotic Activities at Schools
 2016- Lecture and practical course on Robotics AG: Robotik - Informatik zum Anfassen,

Overview of my current lectures is available at:

http://h2t.anthropomatik.kit.edu/english/28.php

Post-Doc Supervision

(School kids in the 6-8 class)

2019-now Simon Ottenhaus; Dr.-Ing. 2019-now Jonas Beil, Dr.-Ing. 2019 Lukas Kaul, Dr.-Ing. (now with Toyota Research Institut, USA) 2017-2018 Peter Kaiser, Dr.-Ing. (now with DeepL, Germany 2017-2019 Mirko Wächter, Dr.-Ing. (now with FRANKA EMIKA) 2017–2018 Christian Mandery, Dr.-Ing. (now with Union Investment, Germany 2016–2018 Ömer Terlemez, Dr.-Ing. 2011–2017 Nikolaus Vahrenkamp, Dr.-Ing. (now with Sick AG, Germany) 2015–2017 Eren Erdal Aksoy, Dr.-rer.nat (now Assistant Professor, Sweden) 2014–2017 Julia Borras Sol, Dr. (now at UPC, Barcelona, Spain) 2016–2017 Manfred Kröhnert, Dr.-Ing. (now with Bosch, Germany) 2016 David Schiebener, Dr.-Ing. (now with Dematic, Germany) 2014–2016 Martin Do, Dr.-Ing. (now with Sick AG, Germany) 2011-2014 Kai Welke, Dr.-Ing. 2014-2015 Stefan Ulbrich, Dr.-Ing. 2013–2015 David Gonzalez, Dr.-Ing. (now with Intel, USA) 2008–2009 Pedram Azad, Dr.-Ing. (now with Keyetech, Germany)

Ph.D. Students Supervision

2019–now Franziska Krebs; Human-Inspired grasping and manipulation

2019-now	Andre Meixner; Learning bidirectional mapping between langauge and action
2019-now	Rainer Kartmann; Learning object relations
2019-now	Christian Dreher; Action recognition of bimanual tasks
2018-now	Kevin Hitzler; Machine learning for manipulation action planning
2018-now	Christoph Pohl; Semantic visual scene understanding
2018-now	Jiafeng Gao; Reinforcement learning for compliant collaborative tasks
2018-now	Cornelius Klas; Innovative gripper and hand design
2018-now	Felix Hundhausen; Highly integrated embedded systems for robotics
2018-now	Raphael Grimm; Grasping, manipulation and manipulating planning
2017-now	Julia Starke; Semi-autonomous grasping for prosthetic hands
2017-now	Isabel Ehrenberger; Action recogntion and prediction in wearable robotics
2014-now	Markus Grotz; Active vision for scene understanding
2016-now	Fabian Paus; Active vision for whole-body grasping
2015-now	Samuel Rader; Requirement-oriented design of humanoid robots
2017-now	Pascal Weiner; Embedded systems design and haptics for humanoid hands and prosthesis
2016-now	Zhou You; Learning and Adaptation of Movement Primitives for Robotics
2013–2019	Jonas Beil; Kinematisch kompatible Gelenkmechanismen für Exoskelette der unteren Extremitäten
2014–2018	Lukas Kaul; Human-inspirited balancing and recovery stepping for humanoid robots
2014–2017	Christian Mandery; Data-driven generation of humanoid motion based on large scale motion databases
2014–2019	Simon Ottenhaus; Visuo-haptic grasping of unknown objects through exploration and learning on humanoid robots
2014–2017	Peter Kaiser; Whole-body affordances for locomotion and manipulation tasks
2013-2015	Katehrina Hertkorn; Shared grasping: a combination of telepresenece and grasp planning, co-supervised together with Prof. G. Hirzinger, DLR
2011–2017	Mirko Wächter; Learning and execution of manipulation tasks on humanoid robots
2009-2016	Ömer Terlemez; Reference model of the human body for the transfer of human motions to humanoid robots
2008–2014	Stefan Ulbrich; Sensorimotor learning of body scheme of humanoid robots, co- supervised together with Prof. R. Dillmann
2008–2013	Markus Przybylski; Grasp planning based on object symmetry features, co-supervised together with Prof. R. Dillmann
2007–2013	David Gonzalez; Model-based environmental visual perception for humanoid robots, co-supervised together with Prof. R. Dillmann
2006–2011	Kai Welke; Memory-based active visual search for humanoid robots, co-supervised together with Prof. R. Dillmann

- 2006–2011 Nikolaus Vahrenkamp; Motion planning and sensory-based execution of grasping tasks on humanoid robots, co-supervised together with Prof. R. Dillmann
- 2006-2011 Alexander Bierbaum; Haptic exploration of unknown objects with a five-fingered humanoid hand, co-supervised together with Prof. R. Dillmann
- 2005–2008 Pedram Azad; Visual perception for manipulation and imitation on humanoid robots, co-supervised together with Prof. R. Dillmann
- 2004–2010 Kristian Regenstein; Embedded hardware architectures for humanoid robots, cosupervised together with Prof. R. Dillmann

Thesis Evaluation & Committee at other Universities

- 2019 Dieter Büchler; *Robot Learning for Muscular Systems*, Technische Universität Darmstadt, Germany
- 2019 Wolfgang Xavier Merkt; Bootstrapping Optimal Motion Synthesis in Complex and Shared Environments, University of Edinburgh, UK
- 2019 Christof Elbrechter; *Towards Anthropomorphic Robotic Paper Manipulation*, Universität Bielfeld, Germany
- 2019 Sariah Mghames; Towards the Development of Variable Stiffness Actuated Spherical Joints for Humanoids and humans, Universita' di Pisa, Italy
- 2019 Steffen Schütz; CARL A Compliant Robotics Leg Designed for Human-Like Bipedal Locomotion, Technische Universität Kaiserslautern, Germany
- 2018 Ganesh Gowrishankar; Human Centric Robotics Developing machines that understand human behavior, University Montpellier, France, (Habilitation)
- 2018 Roberto Martin-Martin; Leveraging Problem Structure in Interactive Perception for Robot Manipulation of Constrained Mechanism, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany
- 2018 Qujiang Lei; Feature-Based Fast Grasping for Unknown Objects, Technical University Delft, Netherlands
- 2017 Miha Denisa; *Discovery and Synthesis of New Robot Control Policies through Search in a Hierarchical Database of Example Movements*, Jozef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 2017 Timothee Habra; Gaze Stabilization for Humanoid Robots based on internal models, Ecole Polytechnique de Louvain, Belgium
- 2017 Diana Serra; Motion Planning and Control Methods for Nonprehensile Manipualtion and Multi-Contact Locomotion Tasks, Universitá degli Studi die Napoli federico II, Italy
- 2017 Paul Johny; Image Processing on Heterogeneous Multiprocessor System-on-Chip using Resource-aware Programming, Technische Universität München, Germany
- 2017 Jonathan Feng-Shun Lin; *Temporal Segmentation of Human Motion for Rehabilitation*, University of Waterloo, Canada
- 2016 Achim Rettinger; Comparing the Incomparable Learning to compare Semantic Relatedness across languages, Images and Knowledge Graphs, KIT, Germany, (Habilitation)

- 2016 Mohamad Javad Aein; *Development and analysis of a library of actions for robot arm-hand systems*, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany
- 2016 Anshul V. Joshi; WPCA: The Wreath Product Cognitive Architecture, The University of Utah, USA
- 2016 Ravin de Souza; *Grasping for the Task: Human Principles for Robot Hands*, Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland
- 2016 Alberto Isay Romay Tovar, An Object Template Apporach to Manipaultion for Semiautonomous Avatar Robots, Technische Universität Darmstadt, Germany
- 2014 John Nassour; Success-Failure Learning for Humanoid: Study on Bipedal Walking, Technical University Munich, Germany
- 2014 Mario Gianni; *Multilayered Cognitive Control for Unmanned Ground Vehicles*, Sapienza Universita di Roma, Italy
- 2013 Katharina Mülling; Modeling and Learning of Complex Motor Taks: A Case Study with Robot Table Tennis, Technical University Darmstadt, Germany
- 2012 Maja Rudinac; Modeling and Learning of Complex Motor Taks: A Case Study with Robot Table Tennis, University Delft, Netherlands
- 2012 PhD students of the dorctoral students on Robotics, Neuroscience and Nanotechnologies, Italian Institut of Technology, Italy
- 2011 Silvia Cecilia Tapia Siles; *Robotic locomotion in turbulent flow*, Istituto Italiano di technologia, Italy and Universite Pierre et Marie Curie, France
- 2011 Manuel Mühling; A Whole Systems Approach to Robot Imitation Learning of Object Movement Skills, University of Bielefeld, Germany
- 2010 Jimmy Alison Jørgensen; MoveBots Flexible Object Handling using Dexterous Grippers, University of Southern Denmark, Maersk Mc-Kinny Moller Institute, Denmark
- 2009 Florent Guenter; Using Reinforcment Learning for Optimizing the Reproduction of Tasks in Robot Programming by Demonstartion, Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland
- 2009 Mario Ricardo Arbulu Saavedra; Stable Locomotion of Humanoid Robots based on Mass Concentrated Model, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain

Languages

Arabic mother tongue

German near native, fluent

English **fluent**

Italian basic

List of Publications

Peer-Reviewed Journals

- [1] Christian R. G. Dreher, Mirko Wächter, and Tamim Asfour. Learning object-action relations from bimanual human demonstration using graph networks. *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L)*, 5(1):187–194, 2020.
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- [4] Steffen Ringhof, Isabel Patzer, Jonas Beil, Tamim Asfour, and Thorsten Stein. Does a passive unilateral lower limb exoskeleton affect human static and dynamic balance control? *Journal Frontiers in Sports and Active Living, section Biomechanics and Control of Human Movement*, 1(22), September 2019.
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- [6] Tamim Asfour, Mirko Wächter, Lukas Kaul, Samuel Rader, Pascal Weiner, Simon Ottenhaus, Raphael Grimm, You Zhou, Markus Grotz, and Fabian Paus. ARMAR-6: A High-Performance Humanoid for Human-Robot Collaboration in Real World Scenarios. IEEE Robotics & Automation Magazine, 26(4):108–121, 2019.
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- [9] Nadine Schlichting, Atser Damsma, Eren Erdal Aksoy, Mirko Wächter, Tamim Asfour, and Hedderik van Rijn. Temporal context influences the perceived duration of everyday actions: Assessing the ecological validity of lab-based timing phenomena. *Journal of Cognition*, 1(2):1–10, January 2018.
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- [61] Julian Zimmer, Tess Hellebrekers, Tamim Asfour, Carmel Majidi, and Oliver Kroemer. Predicting grasp success with a soft sensing skin and shape-memory actuated gripper. In IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS), Macau, China, November 2019. IEEE.
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