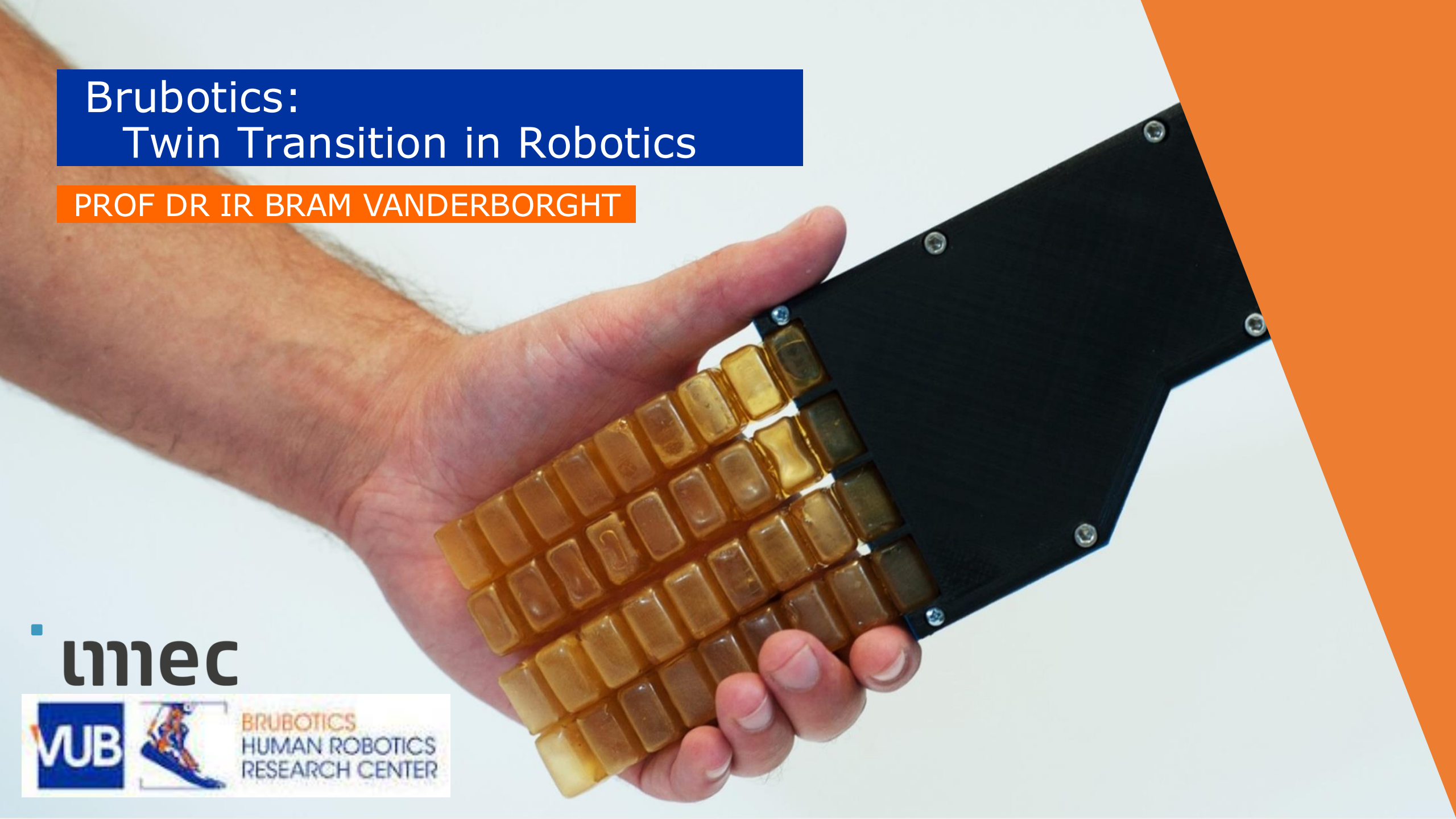


# Brubotics: Twin Transition in Robotics

PROF DR IR BRAM VANDERBORGHT



**imec**



# Twin Transition: digital and sustainable





# BruBotics: Brussels Human Robotics Research Center

Human  
Physiology



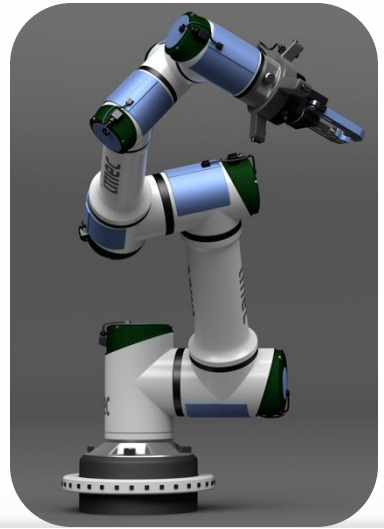
Rehabilitation



Marketing



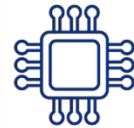
Robotics



Social studies



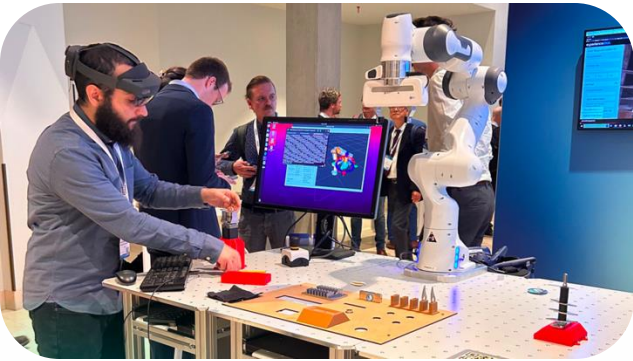
Electronics  
& Informatics



Aging  
Studies



AI





**40%**

European workers suffer from work-related musculoskeletal disorders

**70%**

of absenteeism is due to locomotoric problems at Colruyt (retailer)

**We need to change the way we work**

**52%**


EU construction workers had back pain in last 12 months

**100.000** €/day


Cost of absenteeism at Audi Brussels



Exoskeletons are the solution:  
**Wearable robots that support the body,  
while keeping human flexibility**



Most current exoskeletons are **passive** (no motors). They **hinder** too much, cannot provide **enough support**, and are **not versatile**



The few **powered** ones out there are **bulky, heavy** or just plain **ineffective**

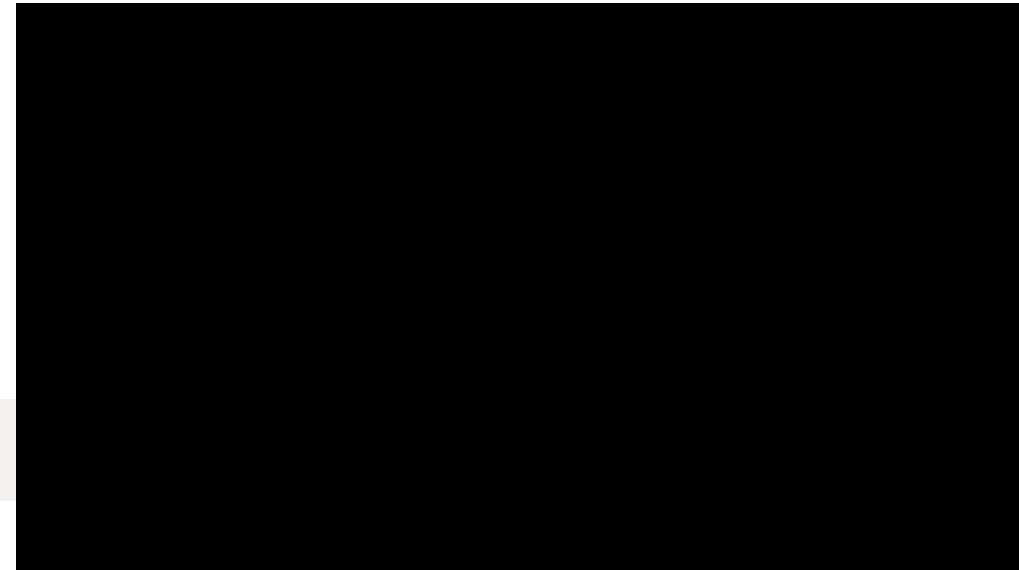
We present a next-generation  
of powered exo's

## HUSKK's Dors Exo

The power of a robotic back exo in the form of a passive one

- + **Effective** decrease of dangerous loads
- + **Dynamic** and **high level** of **support**
- + Proven **limited hindrance**
- + In a **light** and **compact** format

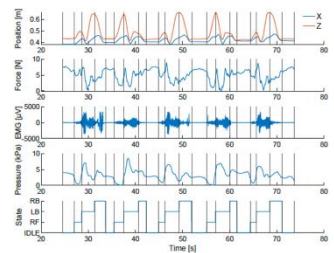
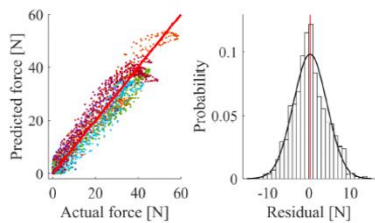
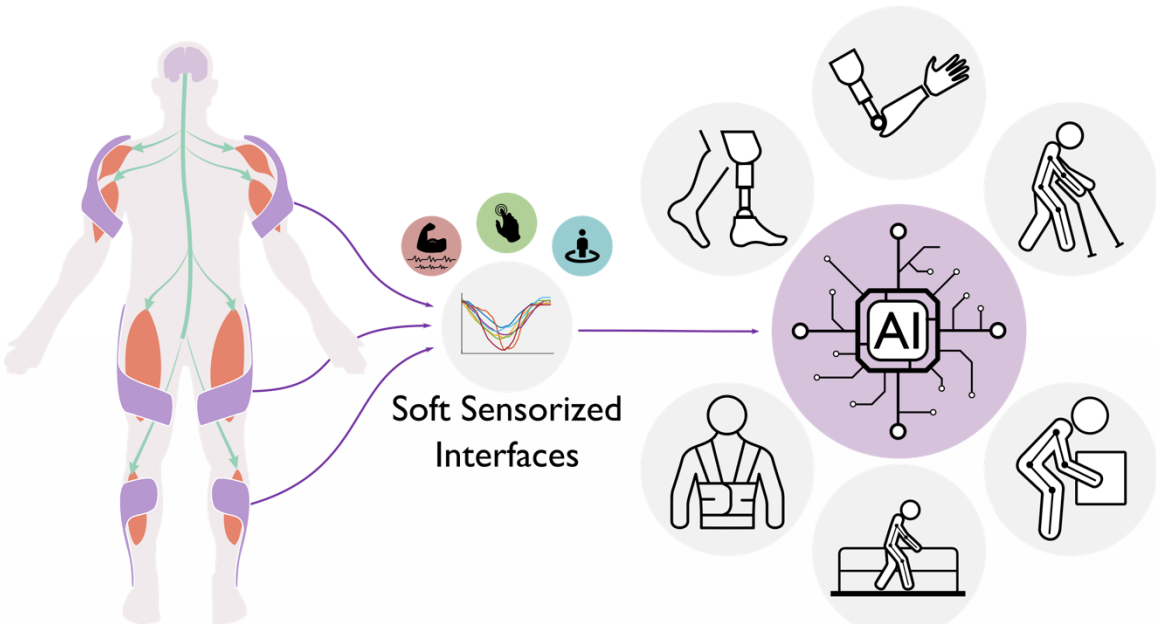
+|



FLANDERS

**MAKE | AUGMENT X**

# Human intention detection



Subject	Actual Class	Predicted Class	Accuracy
Subject 1	RB	RB	100%
	LB	LB	100%
	RF	RF	100%
	RL	RL	100%
Subject 2	RB	RB	100%
	LB	LB	100%
	RF	RF	100%
	RL	RL	100%
Subject 3	RB	RB	100%
	LB	LB	100%
	RF	RF	100%
	RL	RL	100%
Subject 4	RB	RB	100%
	LB	LB	100%
	RF	RF	100%
	RL	RL	100%





# skinetix

AI Models  
Real-time  
On the field

Hello Olivia Wilson

Athlete Overview

Weekly Training Hours: 23

Overall Injury Risk: 63%

Training Time: 55:42:03

Current Injury Risk Level: 71%

Fatigue Level: 35%

Left Right Imbalance: 1.43

Number of Steps: 15.684

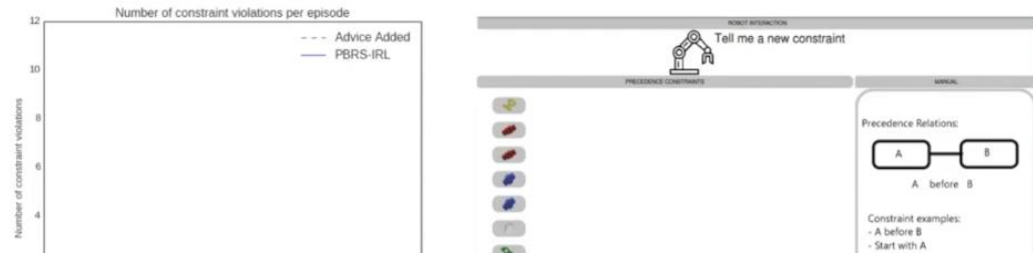
Fatigue Graph:

Time	Fatigue Level
00:00	0
15:00	15
30:00	20
45:00	45
55:42	35

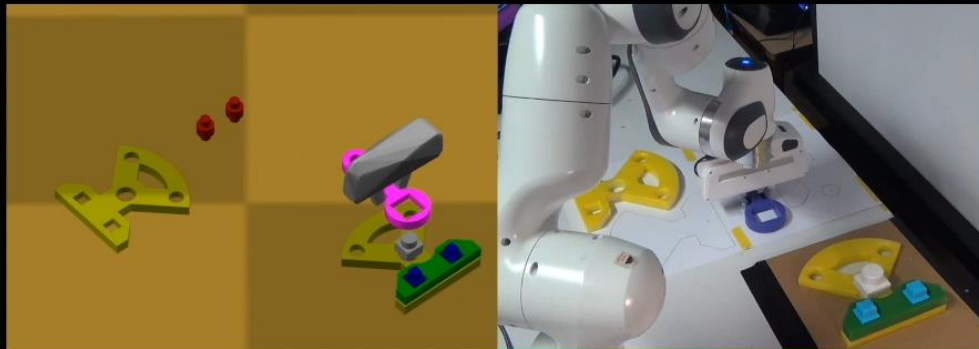
Risk Level Distribution

Active vs. Rest

# Using AI in human robot collaboration



## Expected skill execution





# Improving ergonomics in manufacturing



## Human Robot Collaboration and Communication with flexible robotic skin

Volkswagen Motorenwerk Chemnitz

24th February 2023

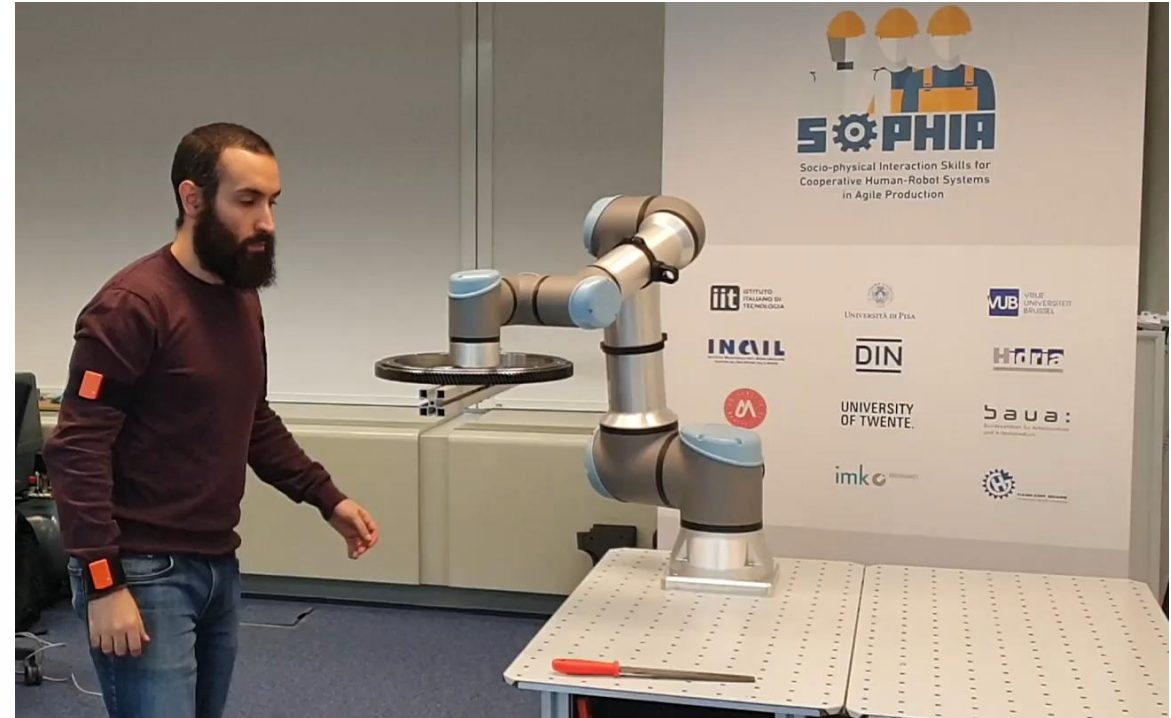


imec



VRIJE  
UNIVERSITEIT  
BRUSSEL

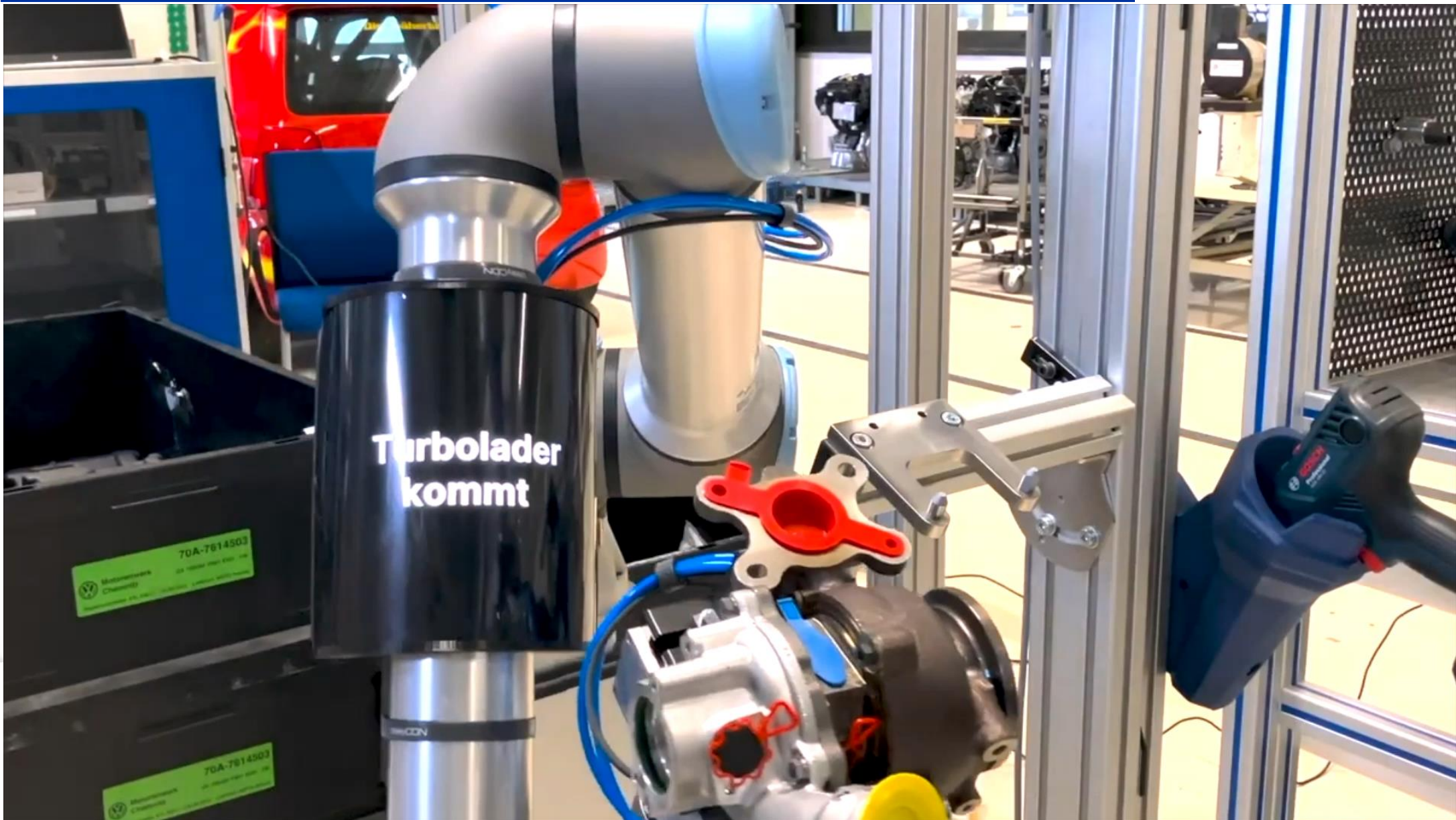
baua:  
Bundesanstalt für Arbeitsschutz  
und Arbeitsmedizin





**SAFEBOT**

making robots situationally  
intelligent and fast

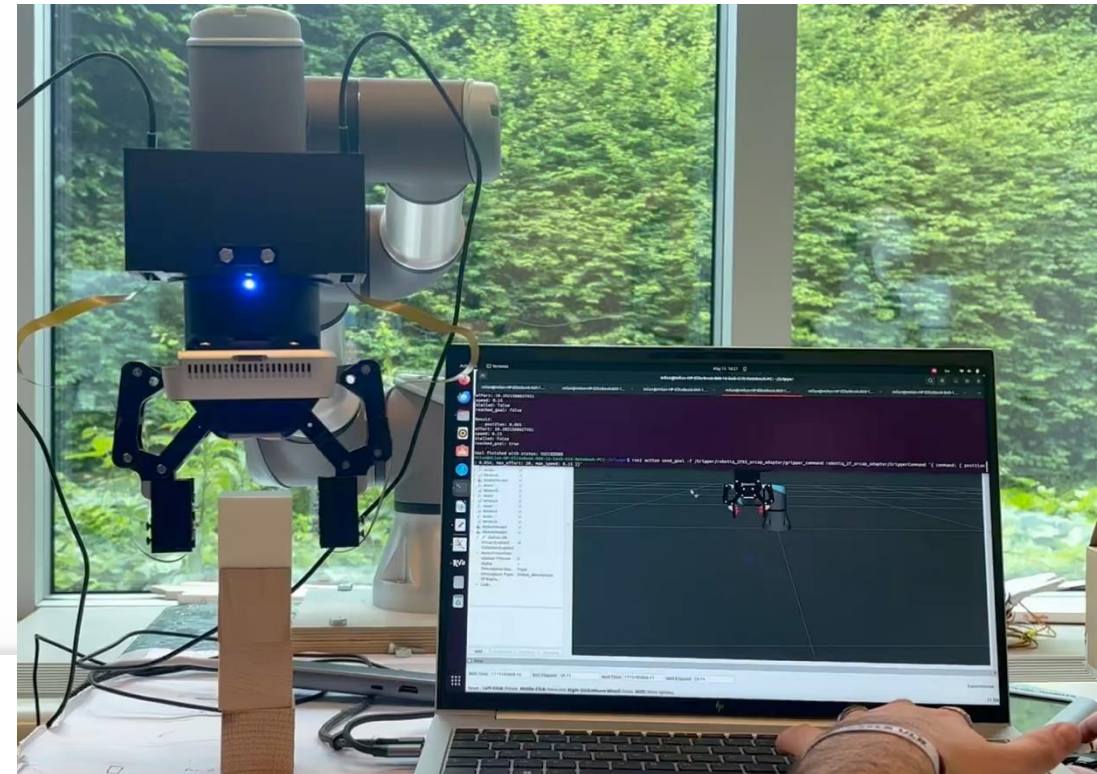


70A-7814503  
Motorenwerke  
Chassis

70A-7814503  
Motorenwerke  
Chassis

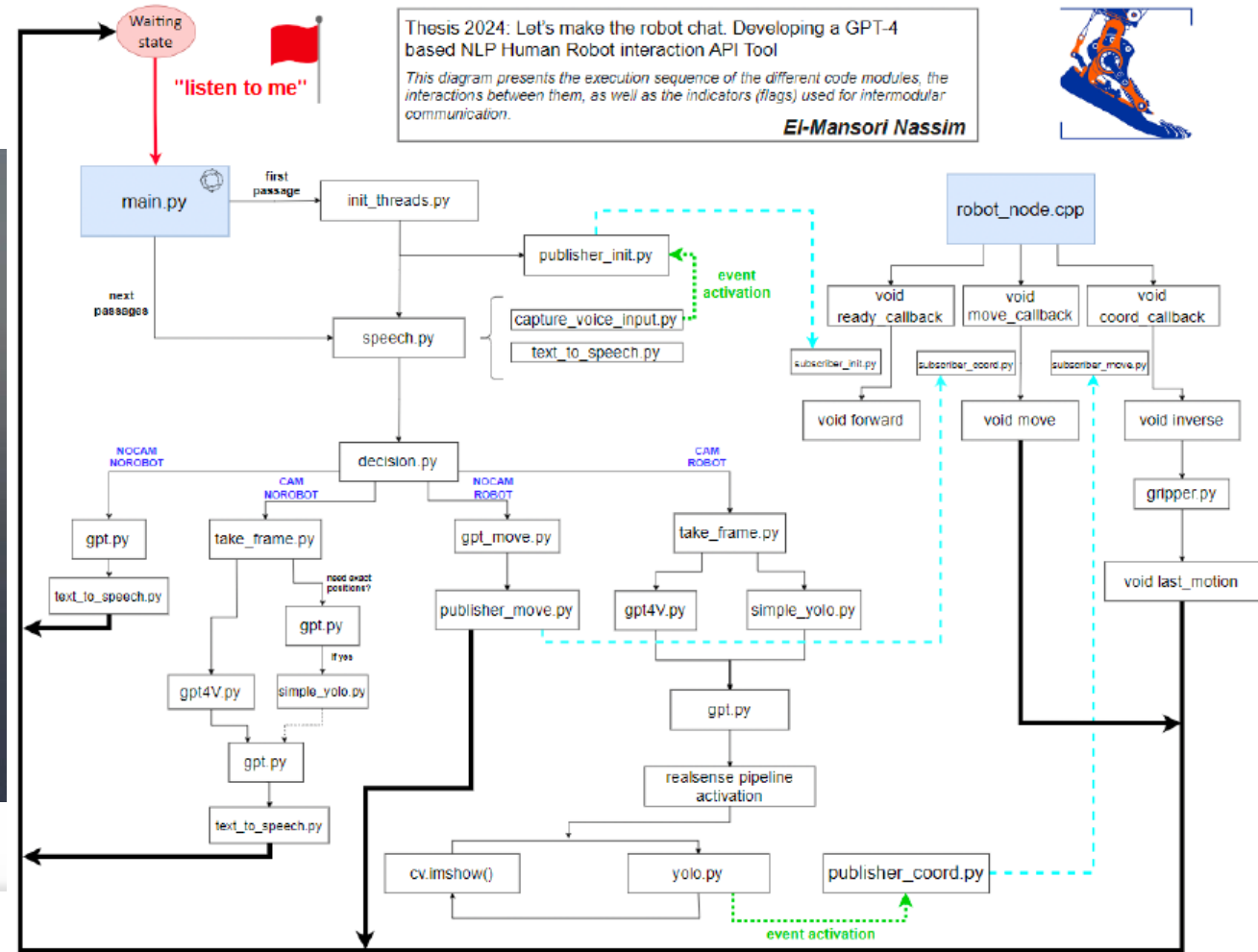
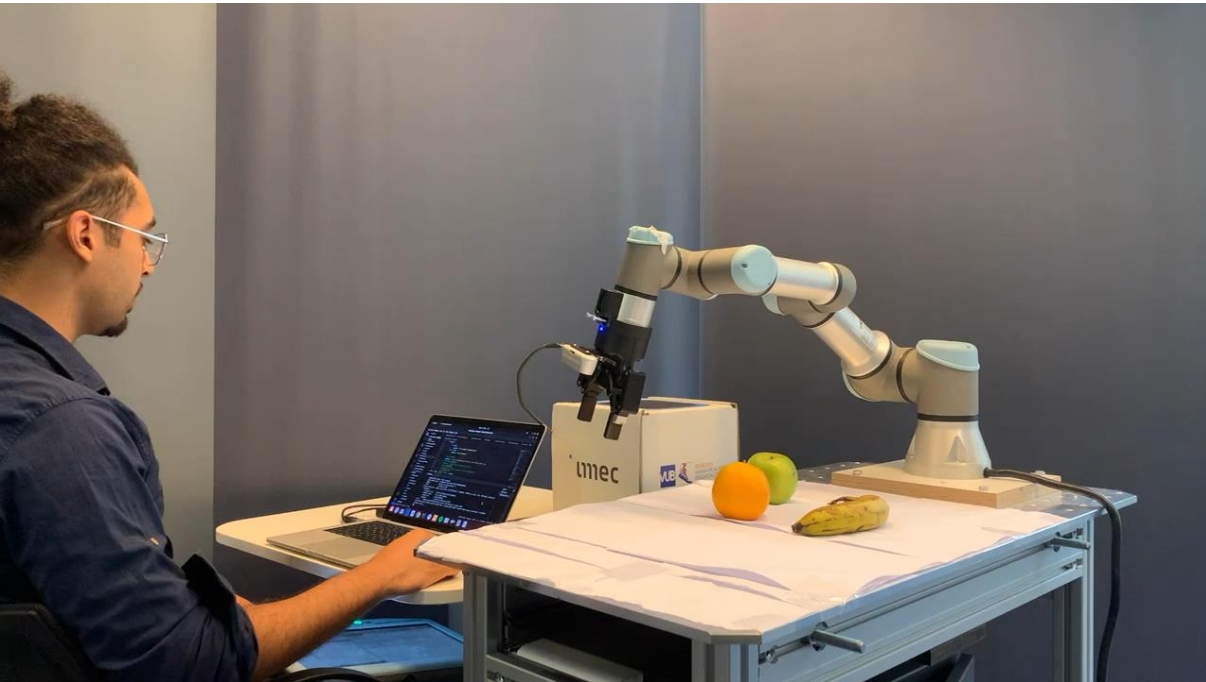


# Melexis 3D magnetic touch technology





# GPT-4 based Human-Robot interaction





# **Self-Healing Soft Gripper for Universal Adaptive Grasping under Hazardous Environment**

**Huijiang Wang <sup>1,\*</sup> Seppe Terryn <sup>2,3</sup> Zhanwei Wang <sup>2</sup> Bram Vanderborght <sup>2</sup>  
Guy Van Assche <sup>3</sup> and Fumiya Iida <sup>1</sup>**

**1: Department of Engineering, University of Cambridge, Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1PZ, UK**

**2: Robotics and Multibody Mechanics (RMM), Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels, Belgium**

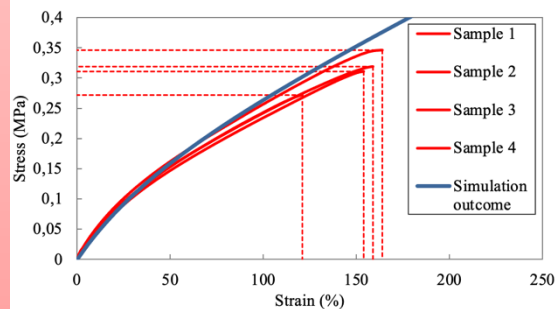
**3: Physical Chemistry and Polymer Science (FYSC), Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels, Belgium**

**\* Corresponding Author: [hw567@cam.ac.uk](mailto:hw567@cam.ac.uk)**

# Self healing soft robots

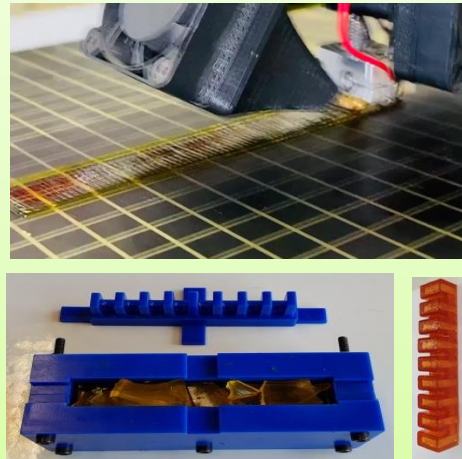
## Material Level

Portfolio of sustainable self-healing polymers/composites



## Manufacturing Level

Formative and Additive manufacturing of (multi-material) self-healing parts



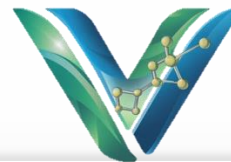
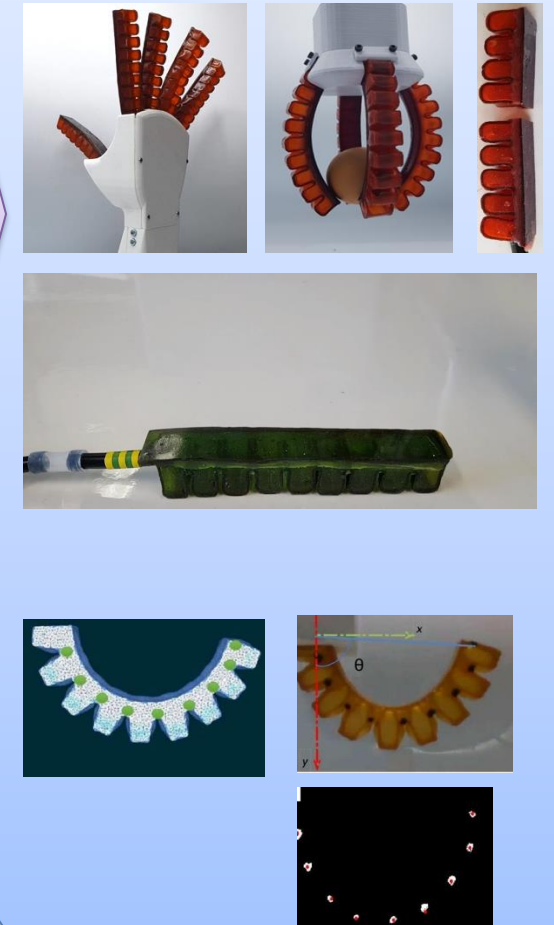
## Sensor Level

Self-healing flexible electronics  
Sensors and heaters



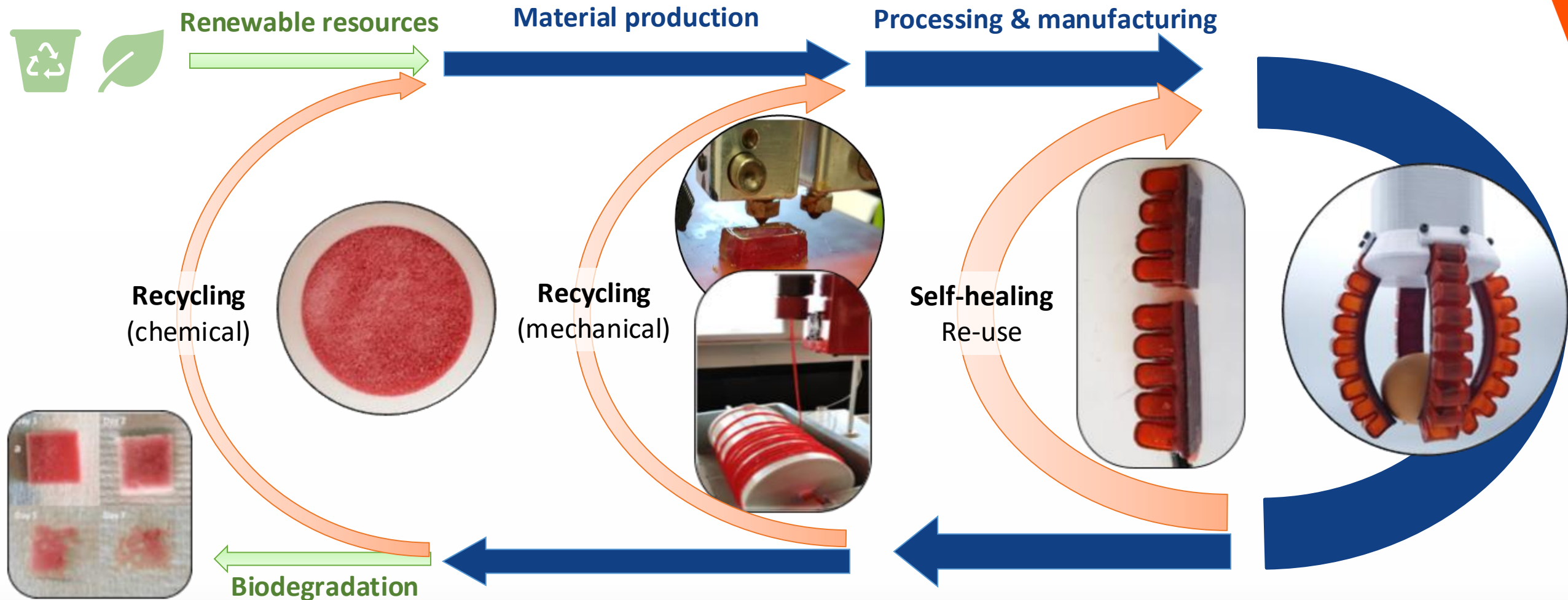
## Robotics Level

Sensorized healable soft grippers and bionic hands



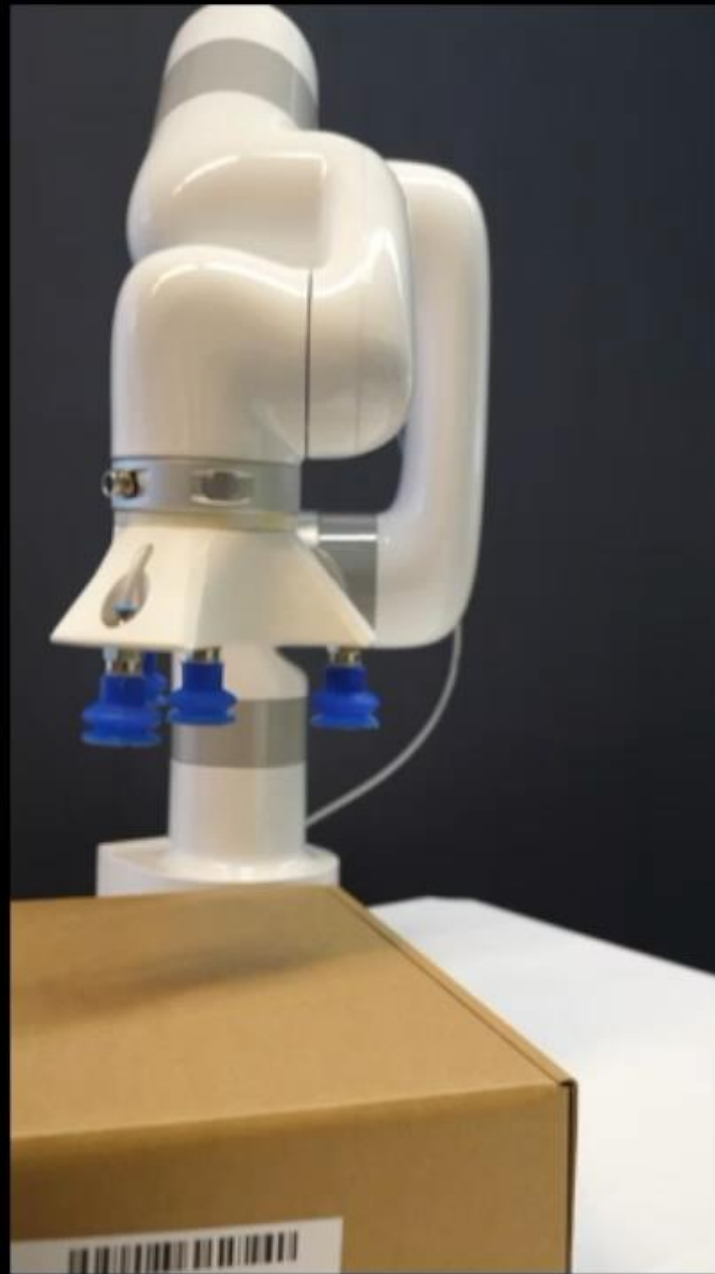
**VALENCE**  
TECHNOLOGIES

# Sustainability and circular economy

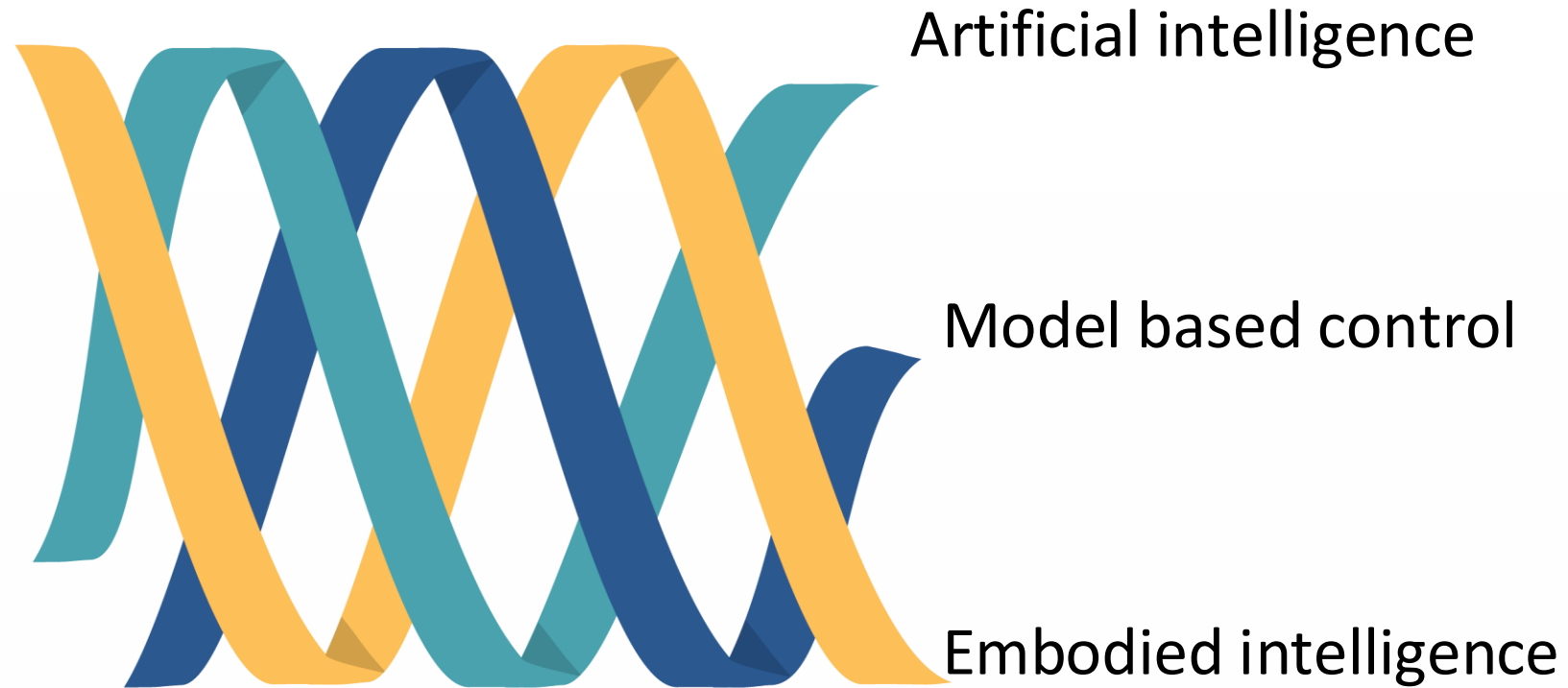




# Self locking suction cups



# Conclusion: triple helix for robotics control





# BRUBOTICS

associated with



## VUB's human robotics research center

Our aim is to drive the twin transition in robotics by uniting digital and sustainability agendas to address societal, economic, and environmental challenges through groundbreaking innovation.



### Axiles Bionics

Bionic feet  
prosthesis



### Valence technologies

Self-healing  
material



### Safebot

Safety proximity  
system



### Skinetix

Sports injury  
detection



### Huskk

Active  
occupational  
exoskeletons



### Ailos

Highly energy  
efficient gears



### AugmentX

Assessment of  
human physical  
activities

With the **support** of

