



# **Robotica in riabilitazione**

# The "GENTLE" robot

The "GENTLE" robot provides therapy for upper limbs by real tasks with **an active grasping mechanism at the end of a robot arm and also through virtual reality with computer graphics where the user manipulates objects on a computer screen through a simple 'reach and touch' technique**

The GENTLE system has been developed by a European Consortium coordinated by the University of Reading. The prototype has been recently tested at the Battle Hospital with 11 patients affected by stroke (Amirabdollahian et al., 2003)

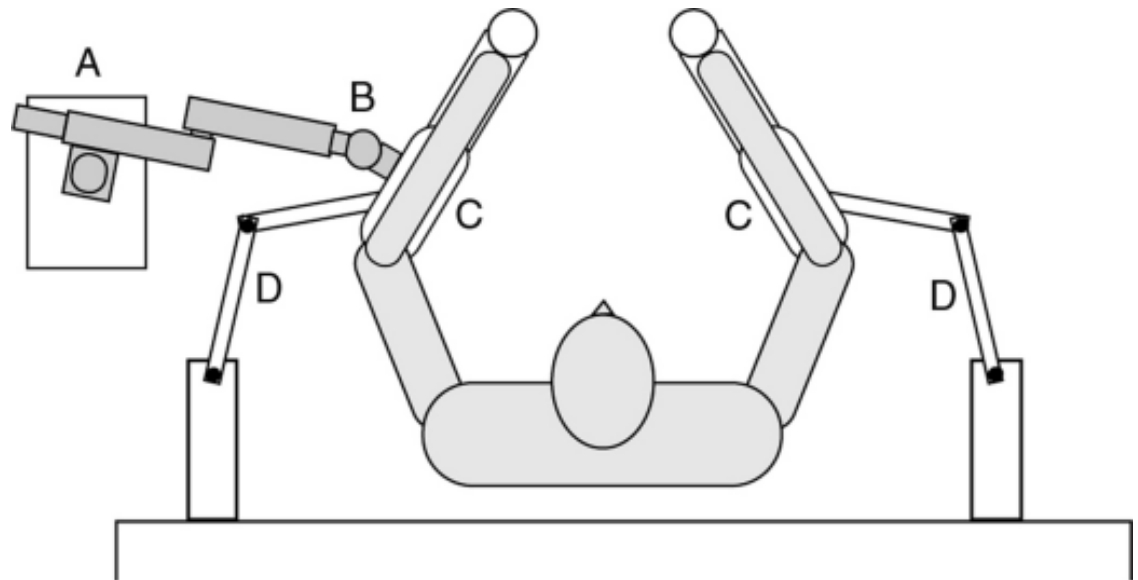


The subjects were randomly divided into two groups (GR1 and GR2) which used the robot before and after another rehabilitation procedure

**The two groups showed an increased motor ability (as measured by motricity index)**

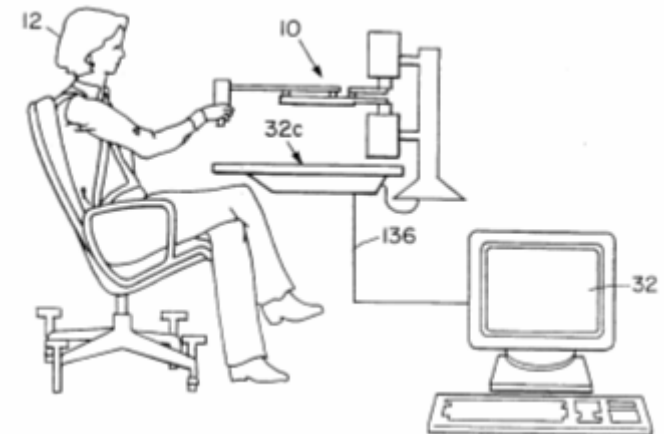
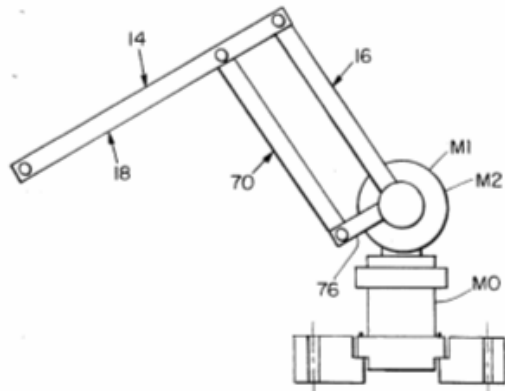
## The "MIME" System

- The MIME system was developed in the framework of the Stanford Robotic Aid Project in collaboration with the US VA Spinal Cord Injury Service
- The MIME uses two standard mobile arm supports that limit the movements to the horizontal plane, and a 6DOF robot arm that applies forces and torques to the arm of the patient



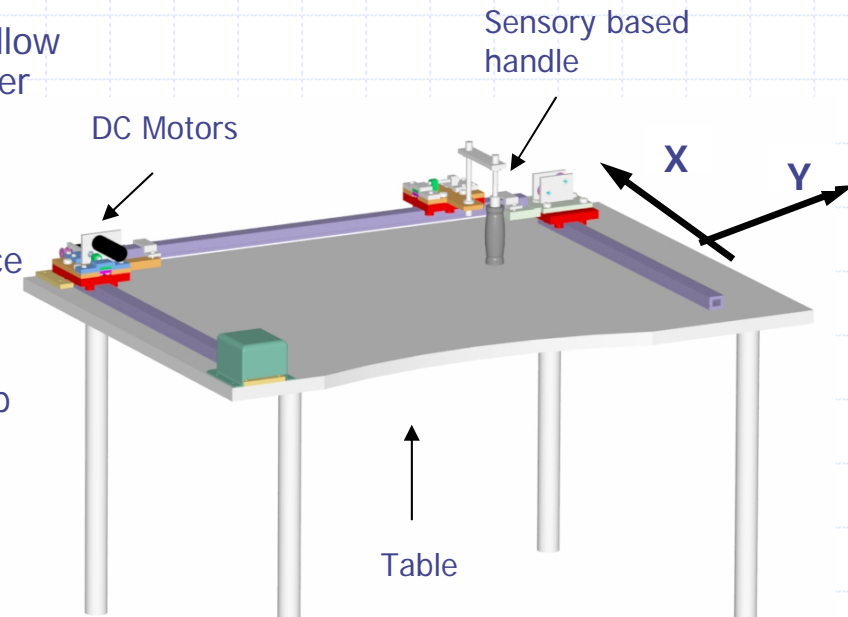
## The MIT-MANUS System

- This system has been developed in the laboratory directed by prof. Neville Hogan at MIT
- The MANUS is configured for safe, stable and compliant operation in close physical contact with humans by developing the impedance control which modulates the way the robot reacts to mechanical perturbation from a patient or clinician and ensures a gentle compliant behavior
- The machine was designed to have a low intrinsic end-point impedance (i.e., be back-driveable), with a low and nearly-isotropic inertia (1 0.33 kg, maximum anisotropy 2:1) and friction (0.84 0.28 N, maximum anisotropy 2:1), and be capable of producing a predetermined range of forces (0–45 N) and impedances (0–2N/mm).

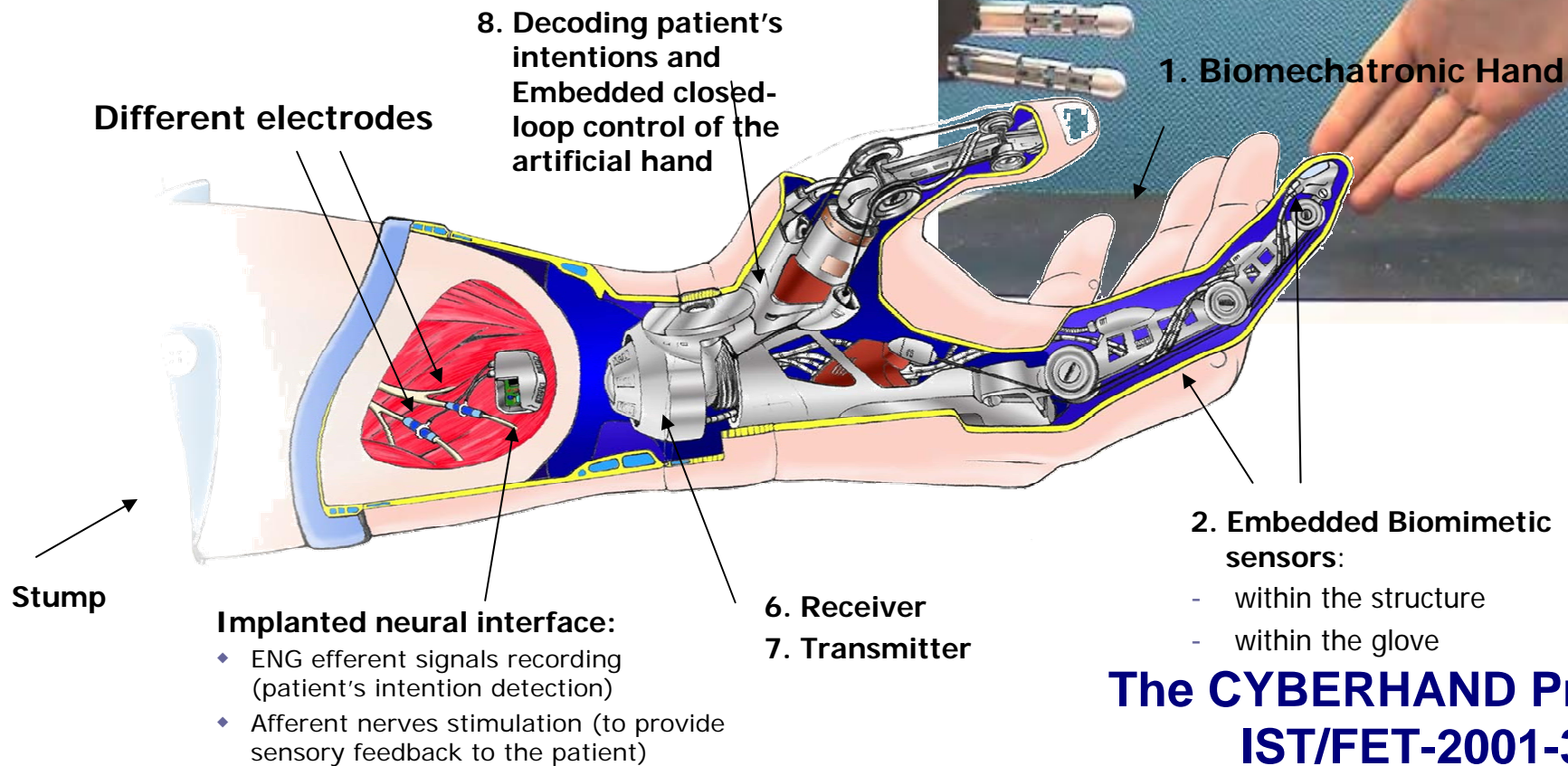
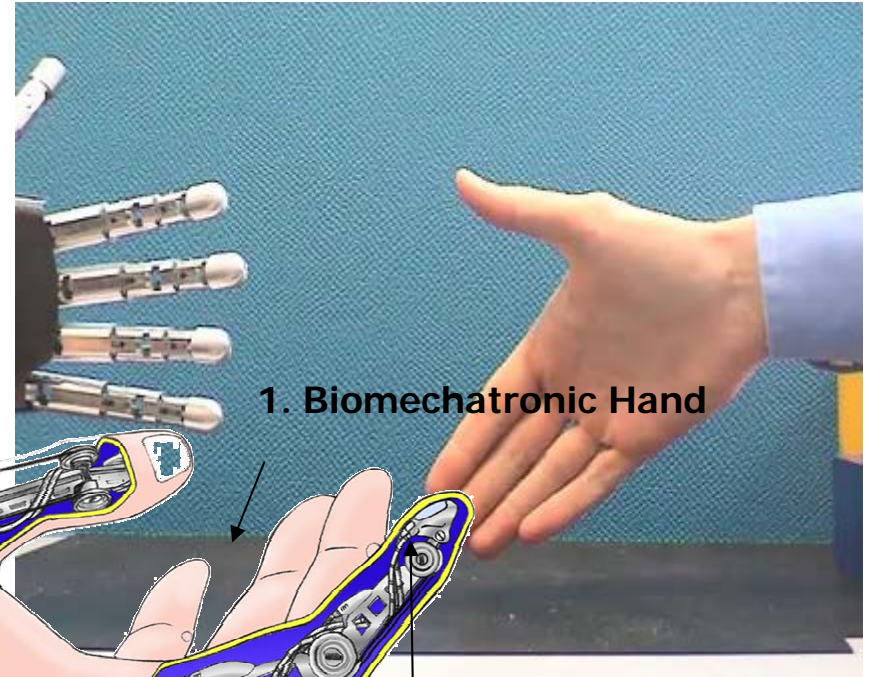
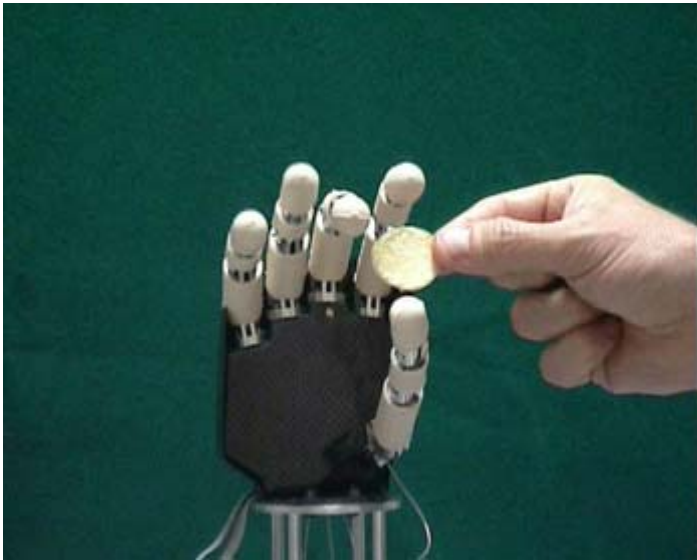


# MEMOS project: *A MEchatronic system for upper limb MOtor recovery after Stroke*

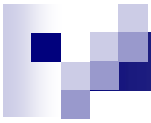
- MEMOS is a mechatronic device specifically designed to allow intensive physical therapy to improve the recovery of upper limb motor function after stroke;
- The structure lets the handle movement in a plane (2D structure);
- Two Dc motors, by means of a pulley/belt system, displace the handle and they can work in active or passive mode;
- Therapists will use this device:
  - To provoke passive movements of patient upper limb who will hold the handle grip of the device;
  - To assist the patient during active movements;
  - To record information about the motor performance;
  - To control tele-rehabilitation of several patients.



# Protesi di mano



**The CYBERHAND Project**  
**IST/FET-2001-35094**

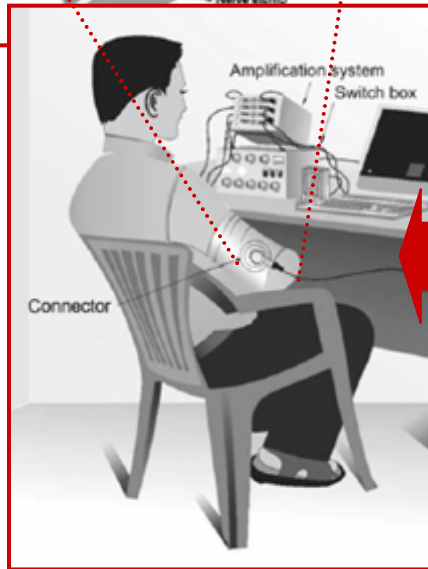
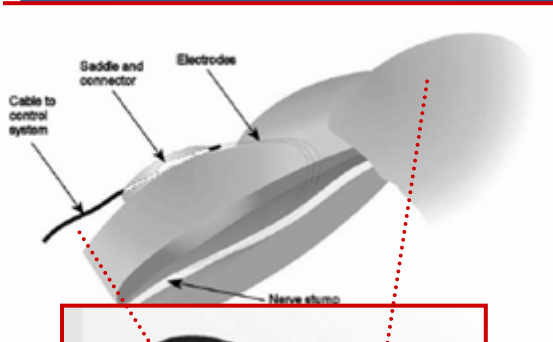


# ARTS Lab

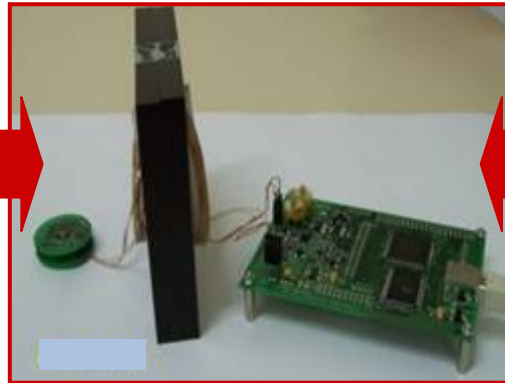
Advanced Robotics Technology and Systems



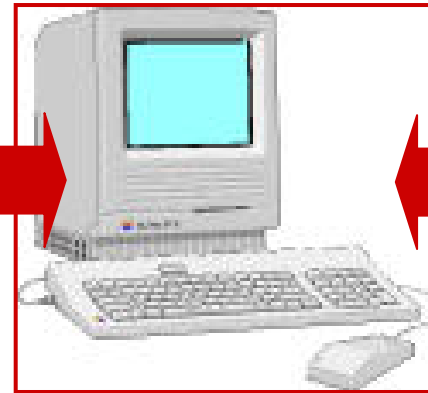
# Schema dell'impianto Del sistema CYBERHAND



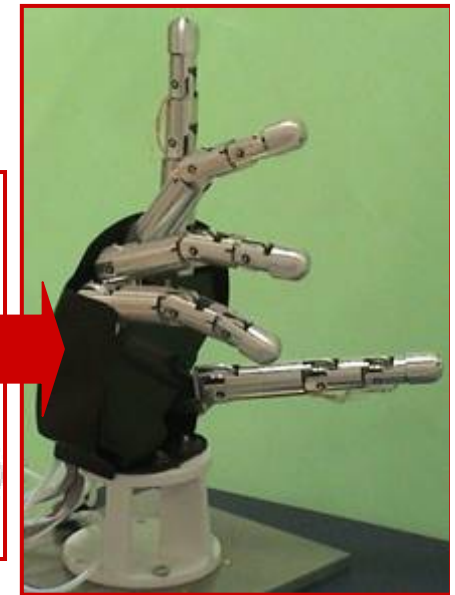
tfLIFE electrodes  
with a  
**transcutaneous**  
connection



Recording and  
Stimulating  
Circuitry  
(**outside the**  
**body of the**  
**subject**)



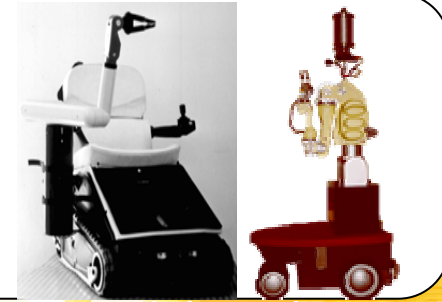
Efferent  
processing,  
control,  
afferent  
stimulation (on  
a PC platform)



CYBERHAND  
prosthesis



# Robotica per Assistenza



## Obiettivi:

- Favorire il reinserimento sociale e professionale dei disabili
- Migliorare la qualità della vita di disabili ed anziani
- Incrementare il livello di autonomia personale
- Riqualficare il ruolo degli assistenti personali

# Robotica per l'assistenza a disabili

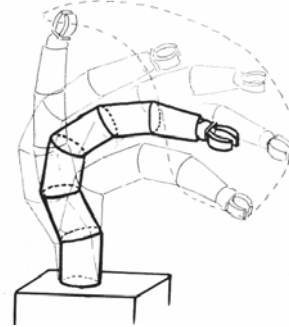
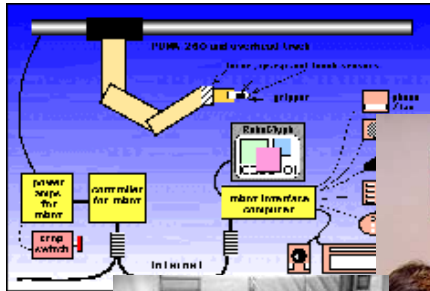


- Stazioni robotiche fisse
- Manipolatori su carrozzina
- Carrozze intelligenti
- Robot mobili
- Sistemi robotici distribuiti ed ambienti intelligenti



# Evolution of Robotics for Personal Assistance

## Fixed Workstations



Master-Raid

TOU



Devar/Provar

## Wheelchair Mounted Manipulators and Intelligent Wheelchairs



Sprint Immediate

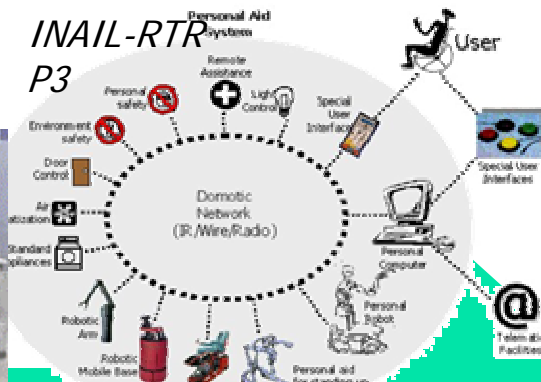


TIDE-Omni

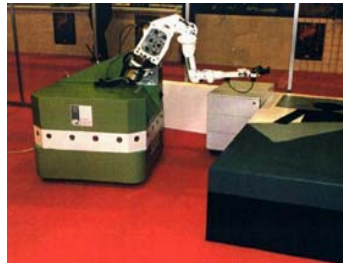
## Modular Distributed Systems



HWRS ERC system



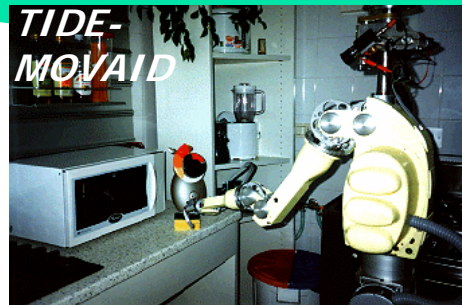
## Mobile Robotic Systems



URMAD Project



Helpmate



TIDE-MOVAID



CareOBot

# Stazioni robotiche fisse



*DeVar/ProVar*

*VA R&D Rehabilitation Center,  
Palo Alto, CA*

Un manipolatore  
robotico  
impiegato presso  
una stazione di  
lavoro fissa



*First prototype: 1982  
First evaluation: 1985*

# Stazioni robotiche fisse per disabili: EU TIDE Programme, "RAID" Project

*First prototype: 1993  
First evaluation: 1995*

*A robotic  
workstation for  
persons with  
physical  
disabilities in a  
computerized  
office  
environment*



# Manipolatori su carrozzina

SPRINT-  
IMMEDIATE



Manipolatore a bordo di  
una carrozzina elettrica ad  
assetto variabile per il  
superamento delle  
barriere architettoniche

*First prototype: 1994*

*First evaluation: 1995*

# Smart wheelchairs: EU TIDE "OMNI" Project



*First prototype: 1995*  
*First evaluation: 1996*

Omnidirectional  
wheelchair with  
'smart' navigation  
system based on  
ultrasound and  
infrared sensors for  
obstacle detection

# Sistemi robotici mobili: URMAD



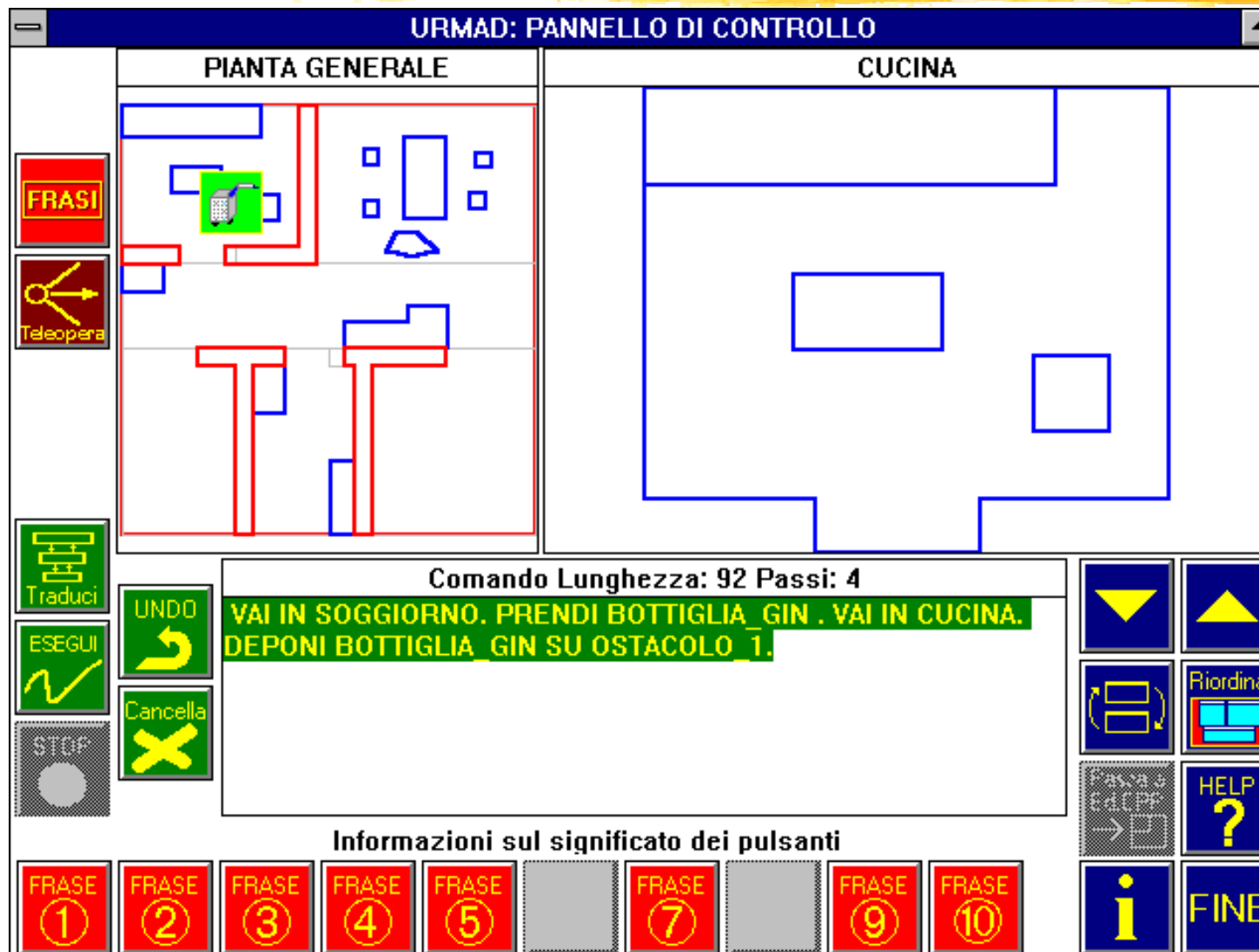
CNR-URMAD

Sistema robotico mobile per  
l'assistenza personale

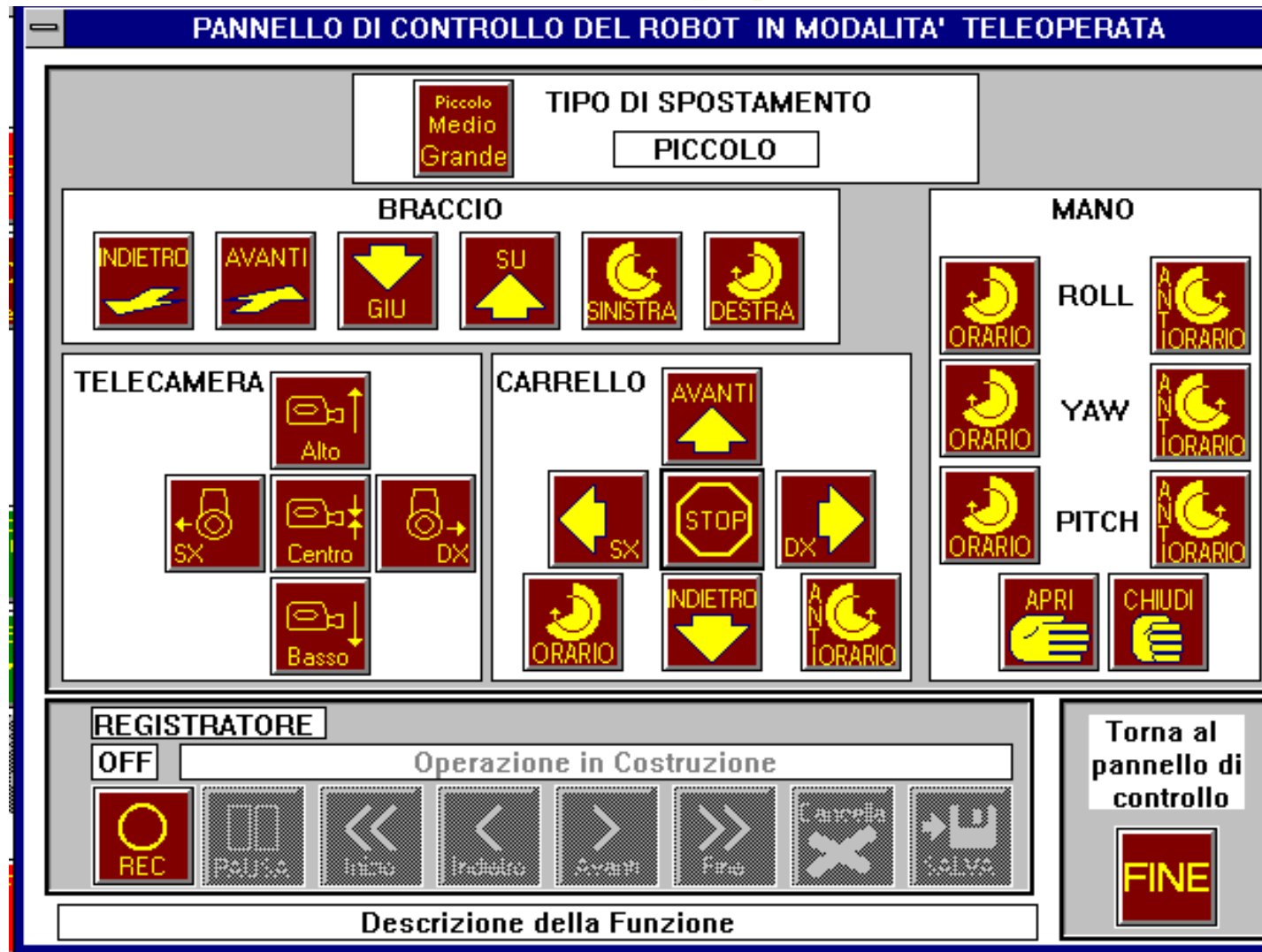
*Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa,  
1992-1995*



# L'interfaccia utente di URMAD: modalità autonoma



# L'interfaccia utente di URMAD: modalità tele-operata





# Care-o-Bot

IPA, Stuttgart (Germany)



Household tasks

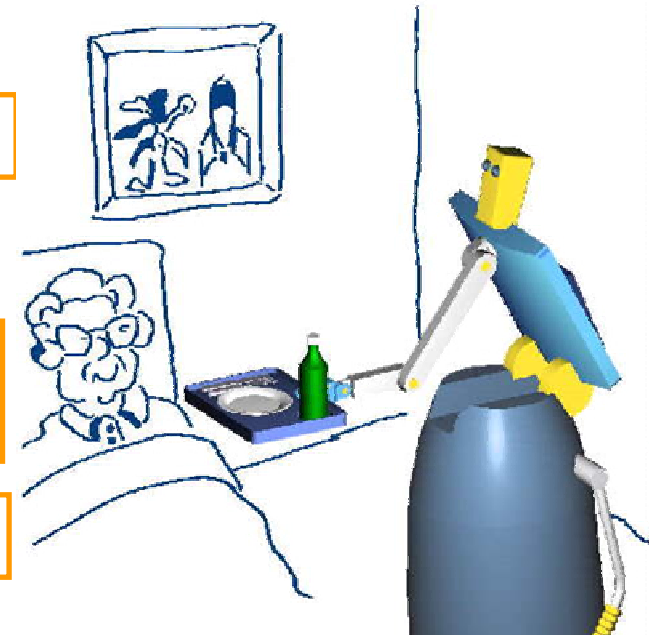
Fetch and carry-tasks

Mobility support

Communication and social integration

Monitoring and safety

Home Management



CARE-O-BOT



# CareBot by Gecko Systems, (USA)

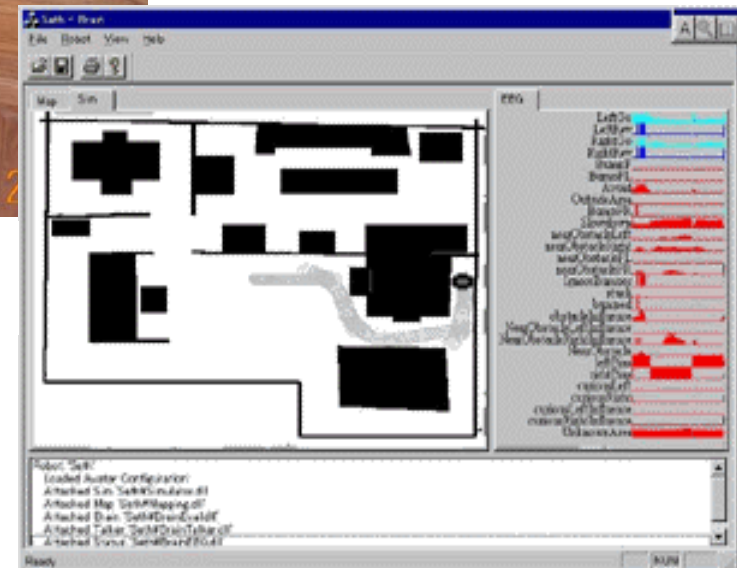


CareBot Serving Refreshments

CareBot Navigating Kitchen

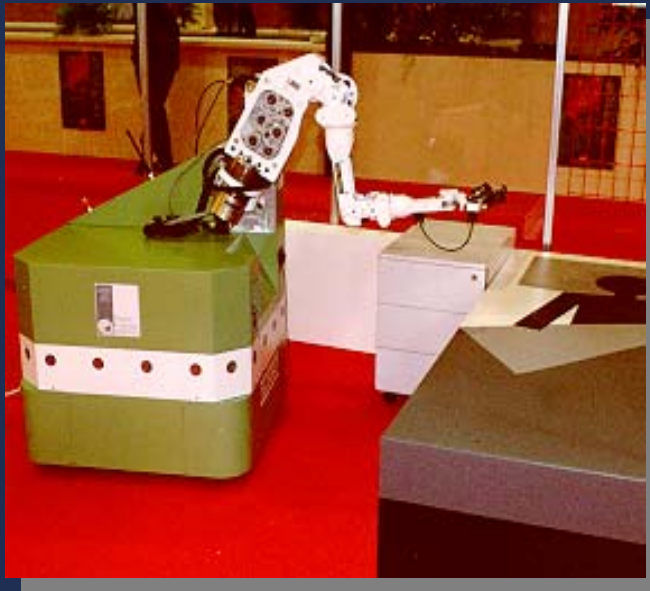


*The CareBot™*



# Evoluzione del concetto di robot personale

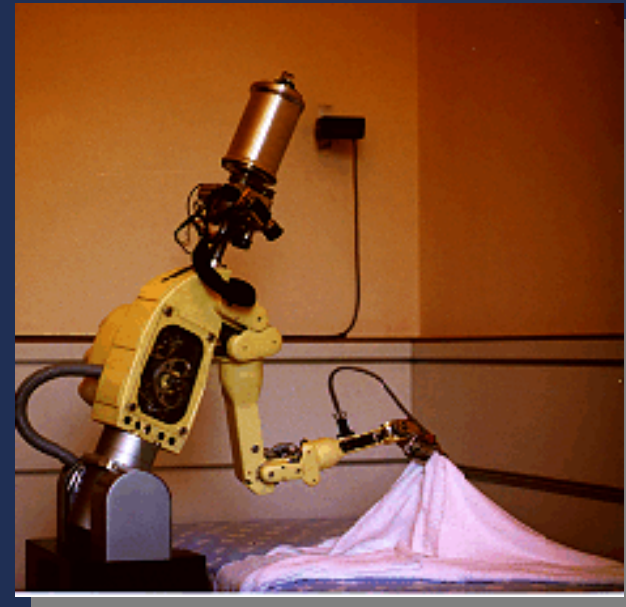
## URMAD



- Massima Autonomia
- Centralizzazione delle risorse
- Pesante e Ingombrante



## MOVAID



- Semi-Autonoma
- Sistema Distribuito (Docking)
- Più semplice e compatto

# Il robot per l'assistenza ai disabili MOVAID



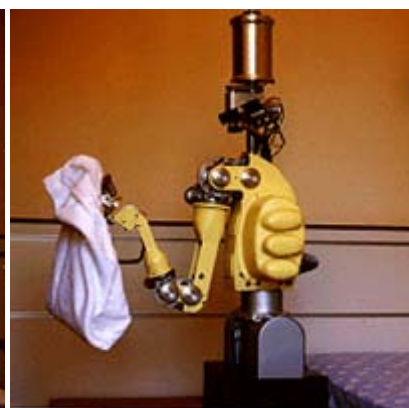
# TIDE-MOVAID: Sistema robotico mobile per l'assistenza domestica

*Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa, 1994-1997*



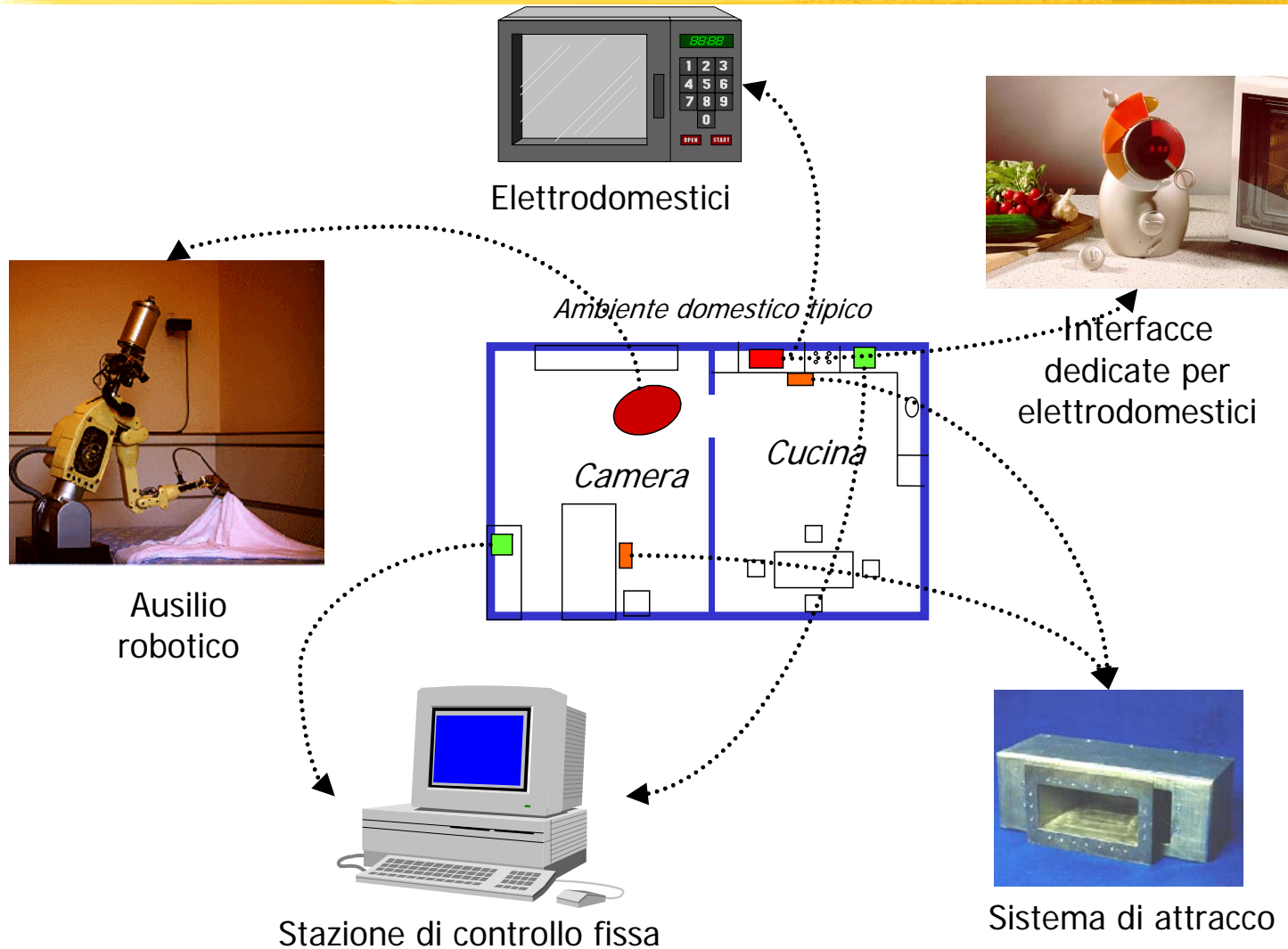


# I compiti di MOVAID

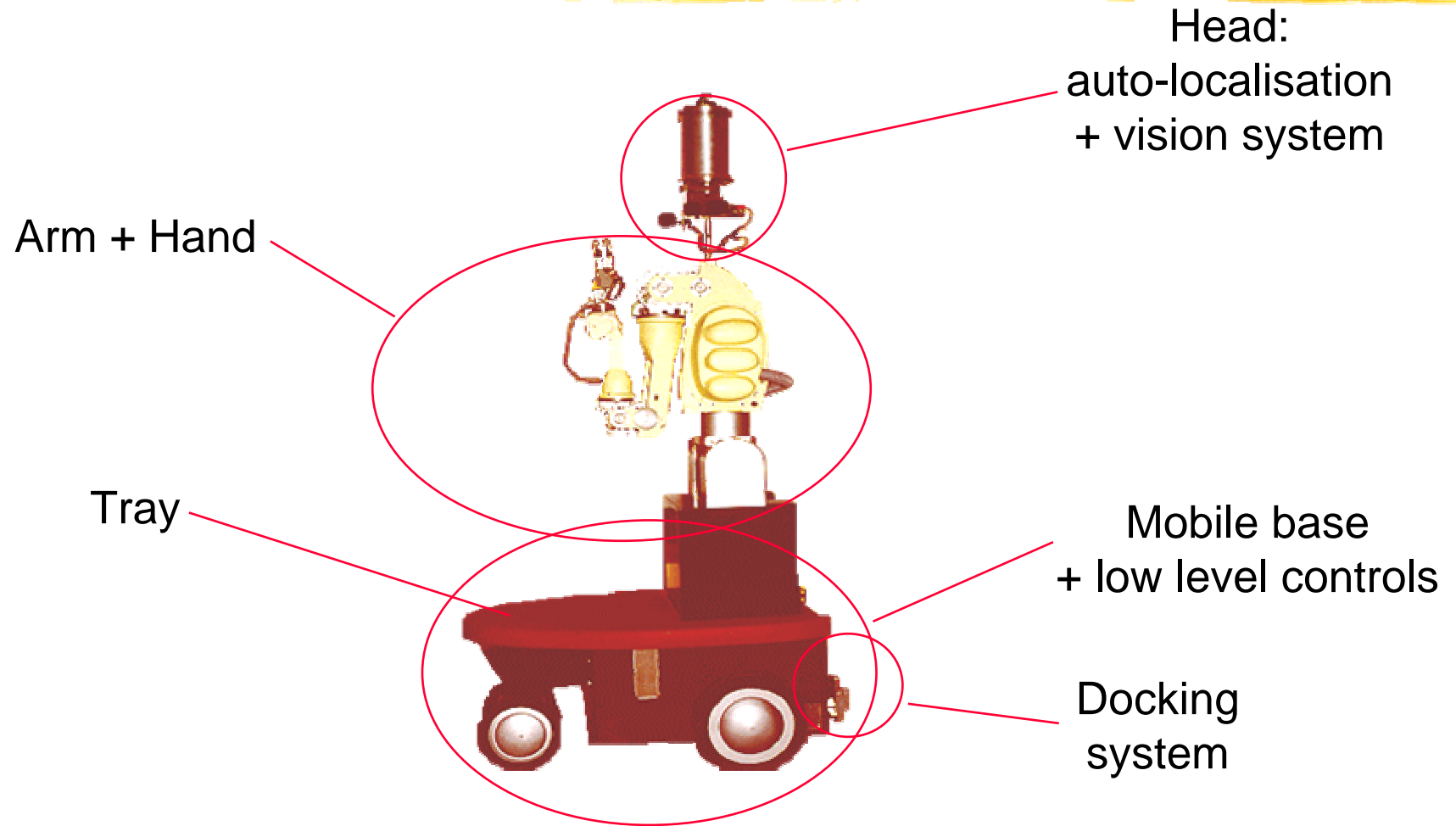


"Centro Auxilia"  
Casa Famiglia  
O.A.M.I.  
v. Bonaini, Livorno  
Con il supporto della  
Cassa di Risparmi di  
Livorno

# Il sistema MOVAID: un'unità robotica mobile in grado di 'attraccarsi' a stazioni fisse



# MOVAID mobile unit



# Il sistema di 'attracco' (docking) di MOVAID

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# Un caso di studio: la progettazione del sistema robotico MOVAID

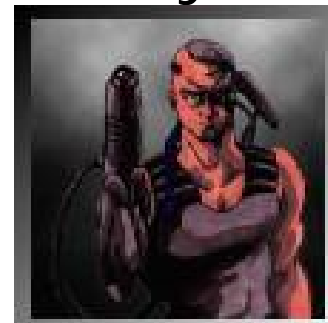
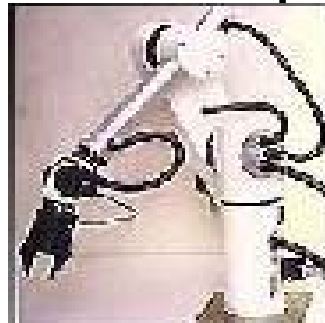


- Determinare la predisposizione degli utenti verso la robotica
- Personalizzare il livello di autonomia del sistema
- Identificare le funzionalità del sistema
- Disegnare l'aspetto del robot

*...coinvolgendo 140 utenti potenziali (disabili e loro familiari ed assistenti), in 3 paesi, attraverso questionari ed interviste*

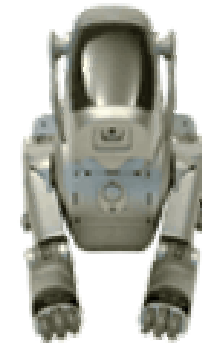
# Ricerca iconografica

- TRISTEZZA: robot industriali, 'Metropolis', cyborg

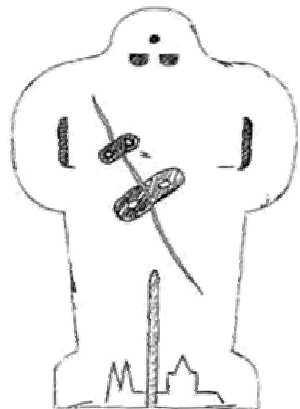


- SORRISO/AMMIRAZIONE: automi, uomo di latta, robot animali

- PAURA: 'Mazinga', 'Alien'



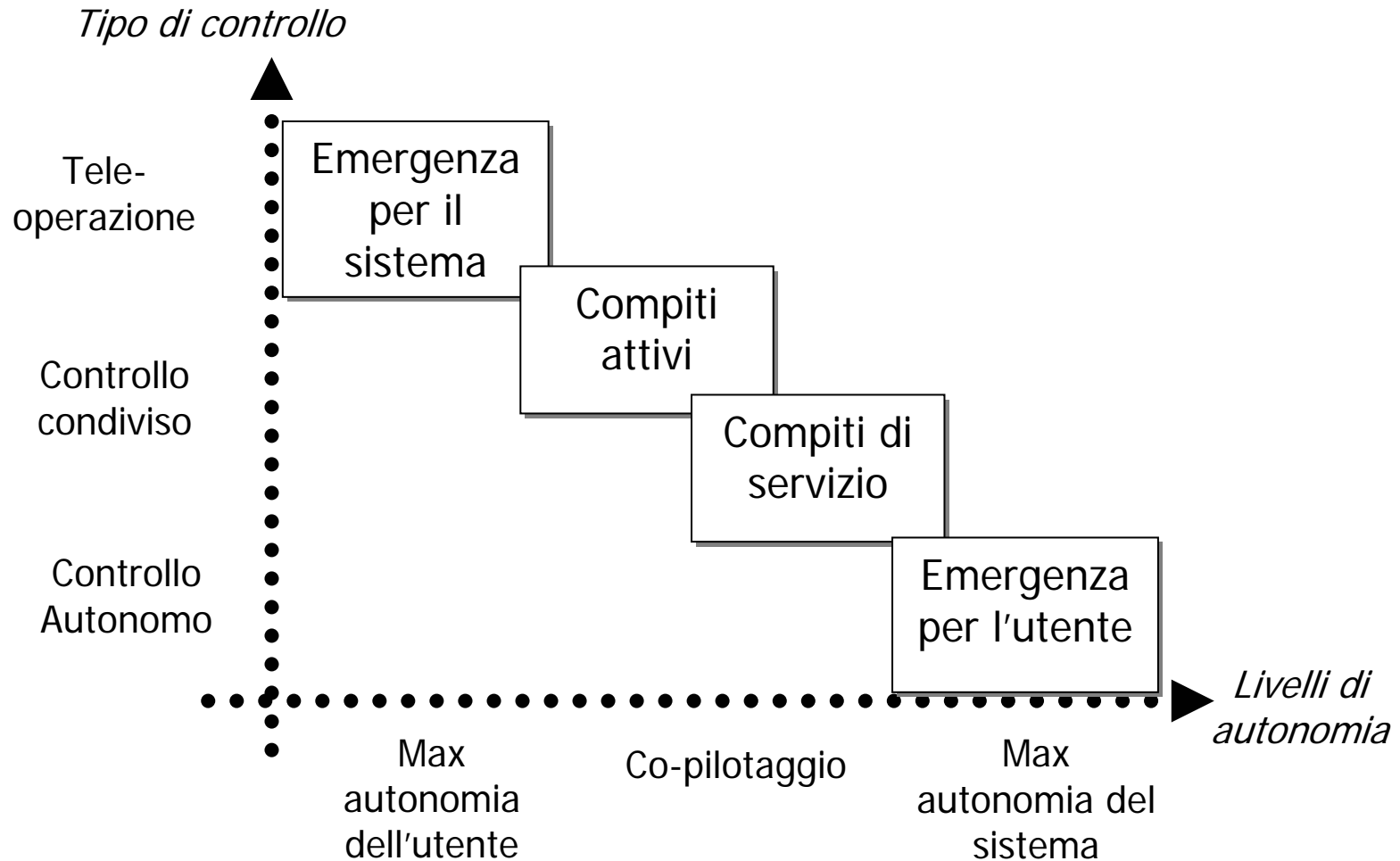
- GOLEM



# Desirable characteristics of a personal robot according to users analysis

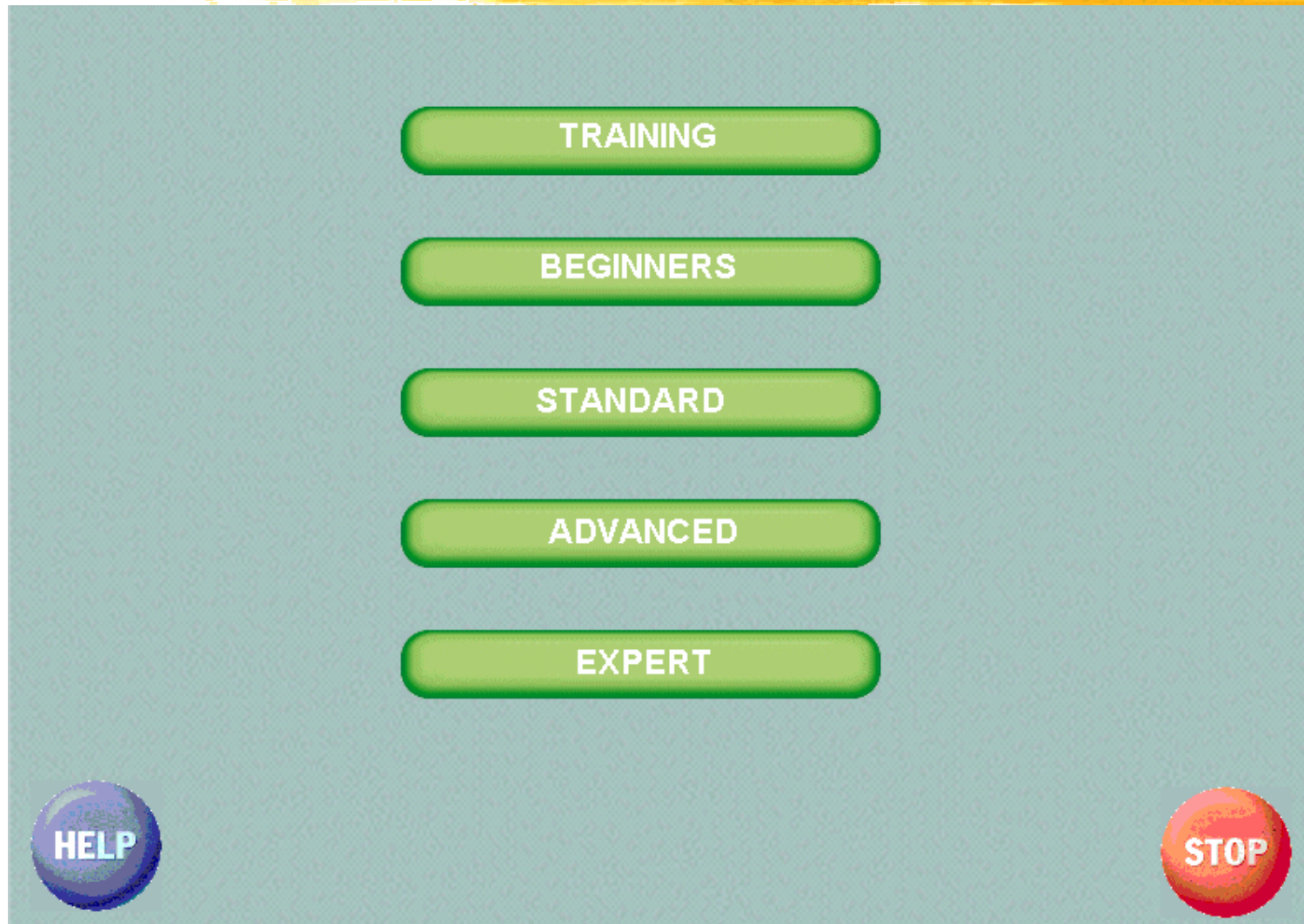
- the robot should look clearly **artificial**, never biomorphic nor anthropomorphic;
- a careful balance should be kept between the technical look and some '**softer**' elements suggesting a feeling of humanism and friendliness;
- 'caricature' elements (pet-robot, puppet) should be generally avoided, as they could create a sense of unreliability (should I be helped by a toy?);
- the robot should 'sleep' in a reassuring position and, when waking up, it should warn and start with a gentle movement;
- the robot should never move in the darkness, or should warn with a light before moving;
- the arm should possibly offer objects from a lower position, avoiding coming toward the user with a 'threatening' attitude.

# Modularità nell'autonomia





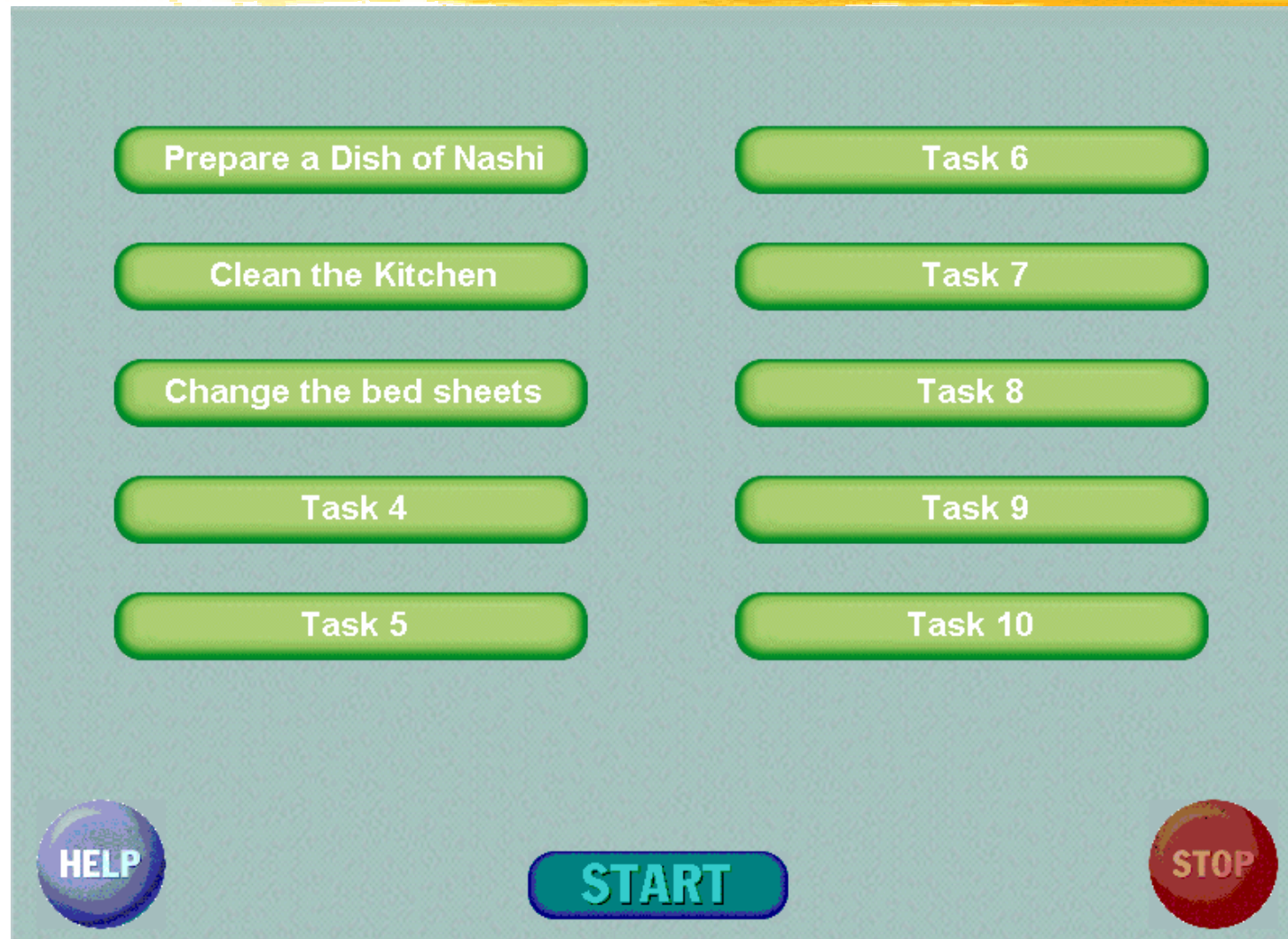
# L'interfaccia utente di MOVAID



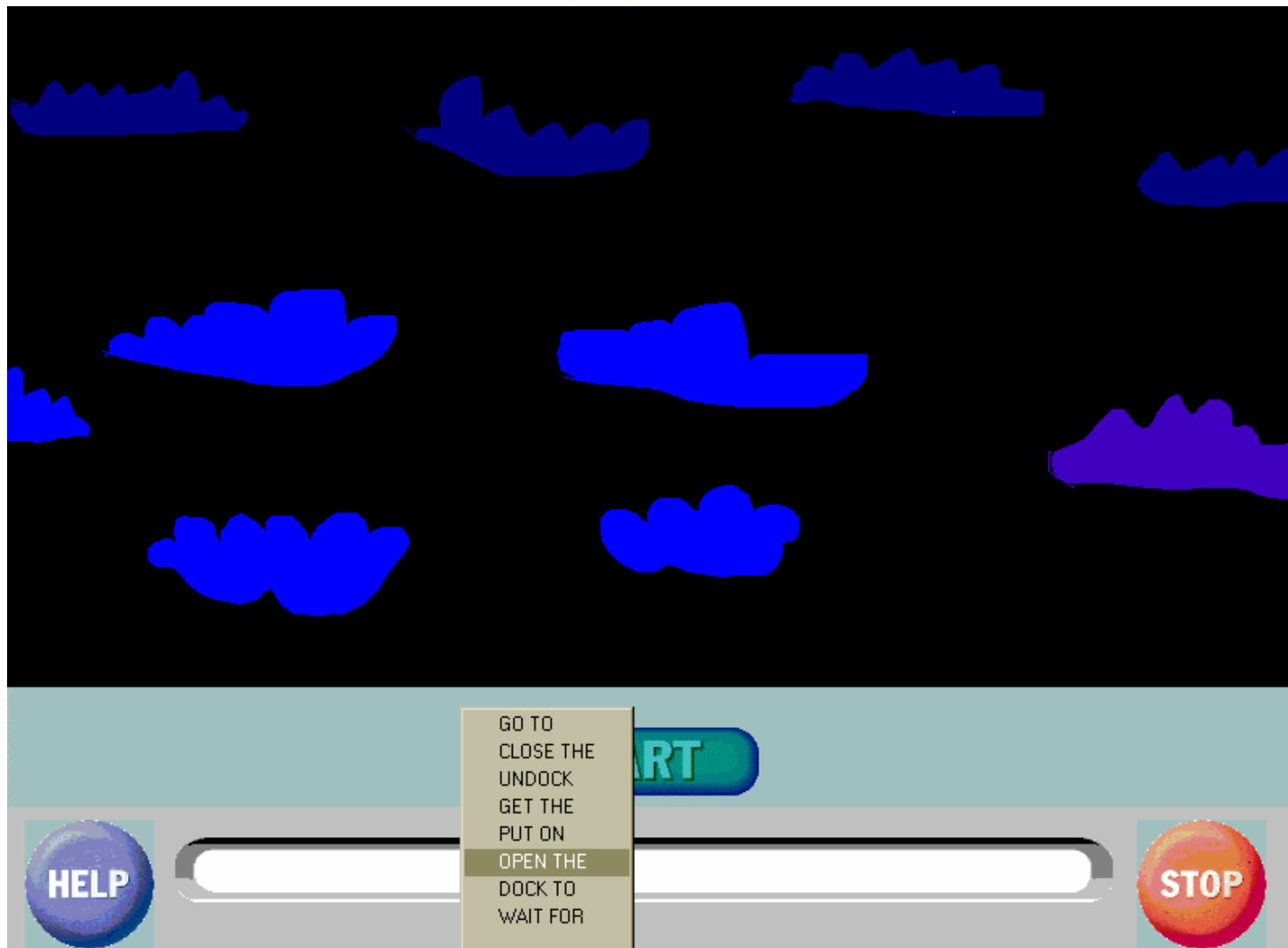
# L'interfaccia utente di MOVAID



# L'interfaccia utente di MOVAID



# L'interfaccia utente di MOVAID



# L'interfaccia utente di MOVAID



# Co-operazione nell'esecuzione dei compiti

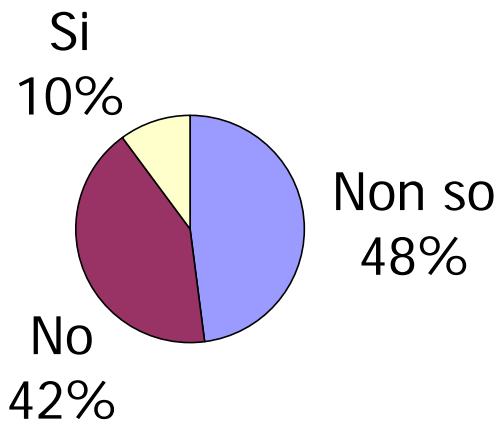
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# Validazione del sistema MOVAID

Prima di  
MOVAID

Immagini l'assistenza  
di un Robot?



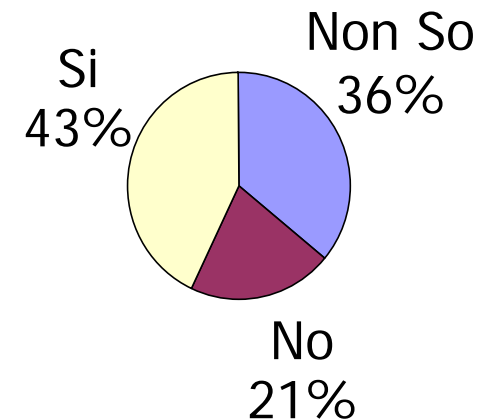
Prove  
Sperimentali



64 utenti coinvolti in  
prove e dimostrazioni in  
3 diversi paesi Europei

Dopo  
MOVAID

Vorresti avere un  
Robot come  
Assistente?

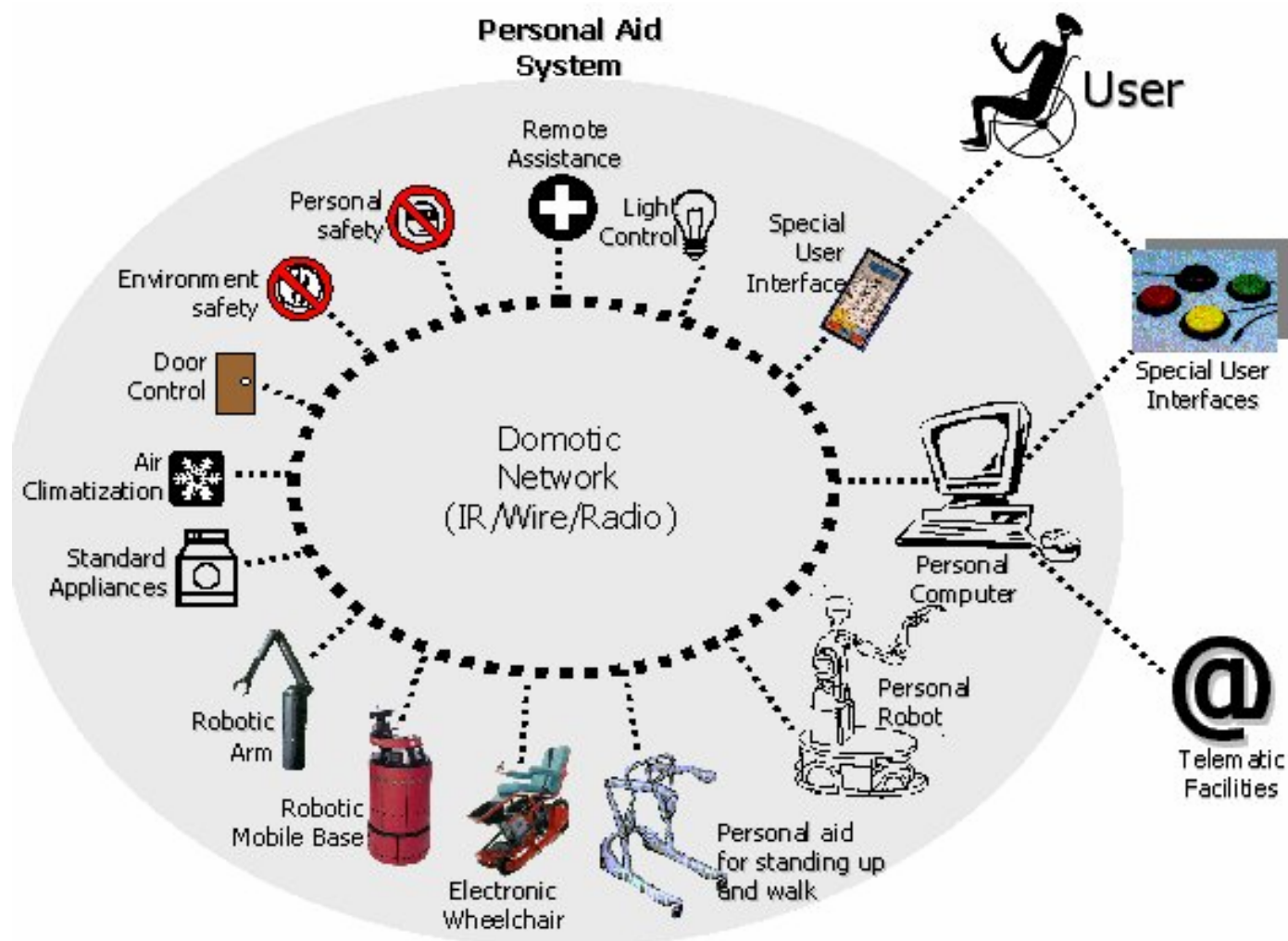


# Domotica





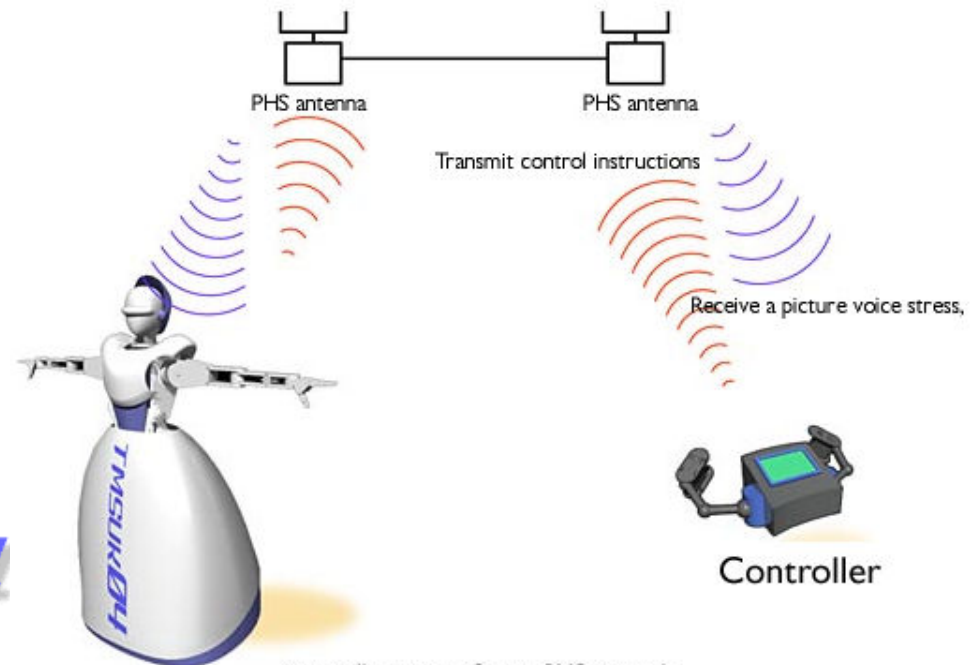
# Nuovo concetto di sistema modulare integrato



# TMSUK IV by TMSUK Inc. (Japan)



A human body shaped robot able to do house work, such as cleaning up windows, remotely controlled



Humanoid Type Hyper Remote Control Robot.

## TMSUK04

image illustration of using PHS networks

# Task-specific Robots



*Handy 1  
Rehab  
Robotics*



*MySpoon*



*Cye Robot  
ProRobotics*



*Roomba  
iRobots*

## ✓ Pros:

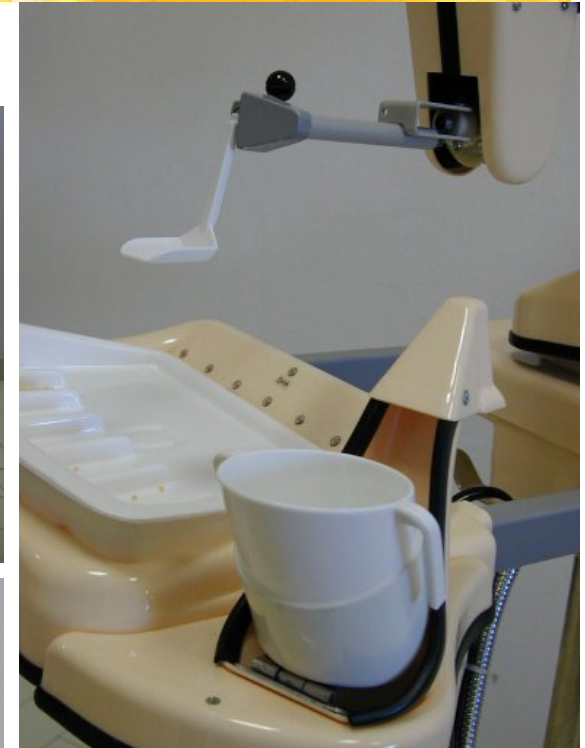
- ▶ Natural evolution of today's appliances
- ▶ Less invasive
- ▶ Lower cost to benefit
- ▶ More commercially viable
- ▶ Shorter development cycle

## ✓ Cons:

- ▶ Need many devices to meet total need
- ▶ Less natural in human environment

# Handy1: un robot per mangiare

*By RehabRobotics, UK, 1997*



# Robotica per l'assistenza personale



2005.01.19

Waseda Univ. Takanishi Lab.

WL-16RII Walking Experiment

## Going Up and Down Stairs

### Continuously

### Carrying a Human

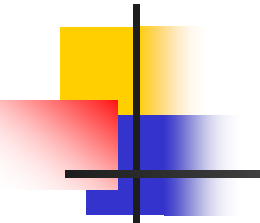
Rise: 150 mm

Pedal tread: 300 ~ 500 mm

Walking cycle: 5.76 s/step

Passenger's body weight: 60 kg

# Research trends for Assistive Robotics



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- Two main paths for assistive robotics:
  - Long-Term: general purpose robotic servants, which MAY have human-like, humanoid appearance BUT IN ANY CASE SHALL BE capable of operating without heavy environmental adaptations, and of interacting at cognitive level
  - Medium/Short-Term: the robotic appliance. The concept of a novel generation of task-specific appliances taking full advantage of enabling micromechatronics and ICT technology, and of human-centred design