

ANITI Chair on Cognitive and Interactive Robotics

AI



**Rachid
Alami**



**François Félix
Ingrand**



**Thierry
Siméon**



**Aurélie
Clodic**



**Arthur
Bit-Monnot**

Devise and build the **cognitive** and **interactive** abilities to allow **pertinent, legible** and **acceptable** behaviors for a robot that is able to perform **collaborative tasks** with a human partner.

→ the assistant and the teammate robot

→ **Ambition to cover the full spectrum of the Robot Decisional Abilities**

1. A principled and long-term **multi-disciplinary collaborative research** with philosophers, development psychologists, ergonomists
2. **Incremental Development of key components** and their articulation within a **Cognitive Architecture**
3. The **deployment and of AI-enabled robotic** systems with potential users
4. The **Evaluation** in contexts where the robot is used to conduct joint action and/or learn or refine abilities with non-specialist **users.**

➤ **1 - Motion Planning**

- Socially Aware Motion and Context-dependent navigation
- Control-Aware Motion Planning

➤ **2 - Combined Task and Motion Planning**

- Integration of Geometric & Symbolic Planning
- Use of Deep learning to speed up CTAMP problem solving

➤ **3 - Task Planning and Learning / Human-Aware Task Deliberation**

- Solver for Planning / Scheduling: Temporal & Hierarchical Planning
- Refinement-based Acting Engine with a Hierarchical Temporal Planner
- Learning Plan and Task Operational Models from Demonstrations
- HR Situation assessment and estimation of Human belief about environment and task
- Planning shared H&R plans with explicit management of H & R beliefs

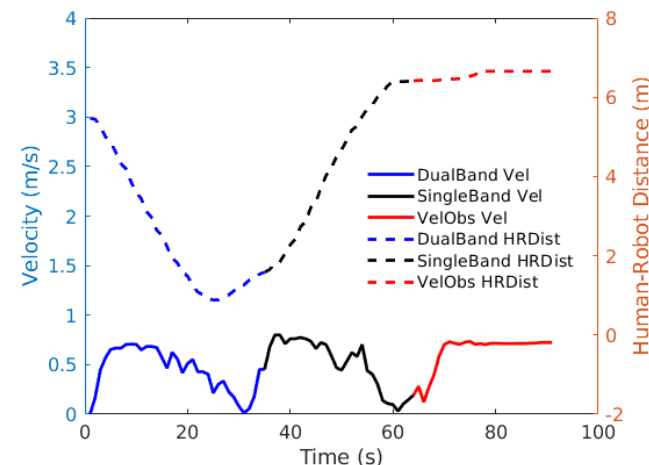
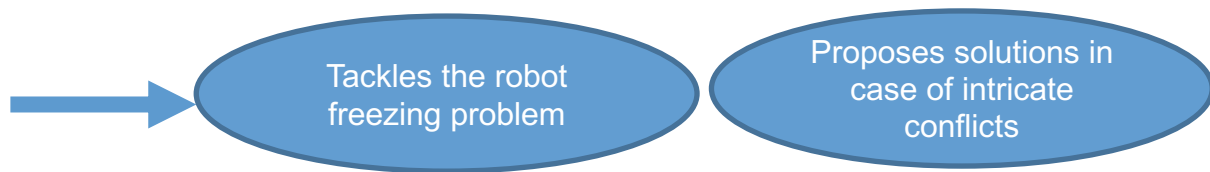
➤ **4 - Architecture, Verification and Certification**

- Formal Models and Tools to Control and Verify Critical Real-Time Systems (Hi
- Architecture to implement an Integrated approach to HR collaboration

1- Socially Aware Motion Planning

CoHAN: Cooperative Human Aware Navigation

- A Human-Aware **navigation** system which can handle various H&R interaction schemes including **cooperative schemes**
- ✓ Human-aware constraints for **promoting legibility and acceptability** integrated in a reactive **optimization process**
- ✓ Several modes (e.g. simple / double elastics band..) depending on context and human behavior
- ✓ **Proactive behavior** based on **trajectories for human & robot**

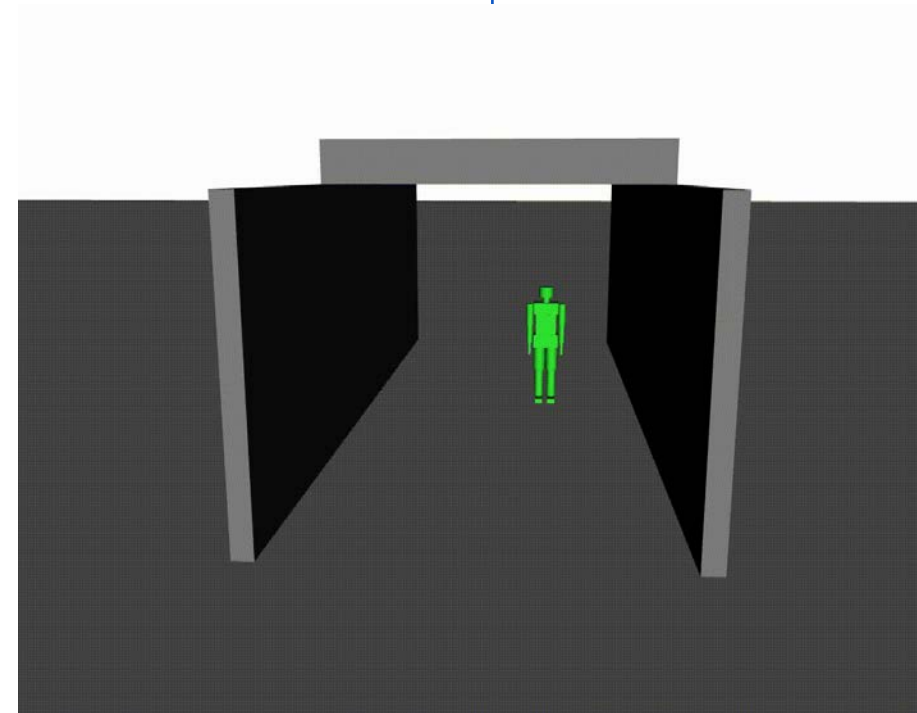
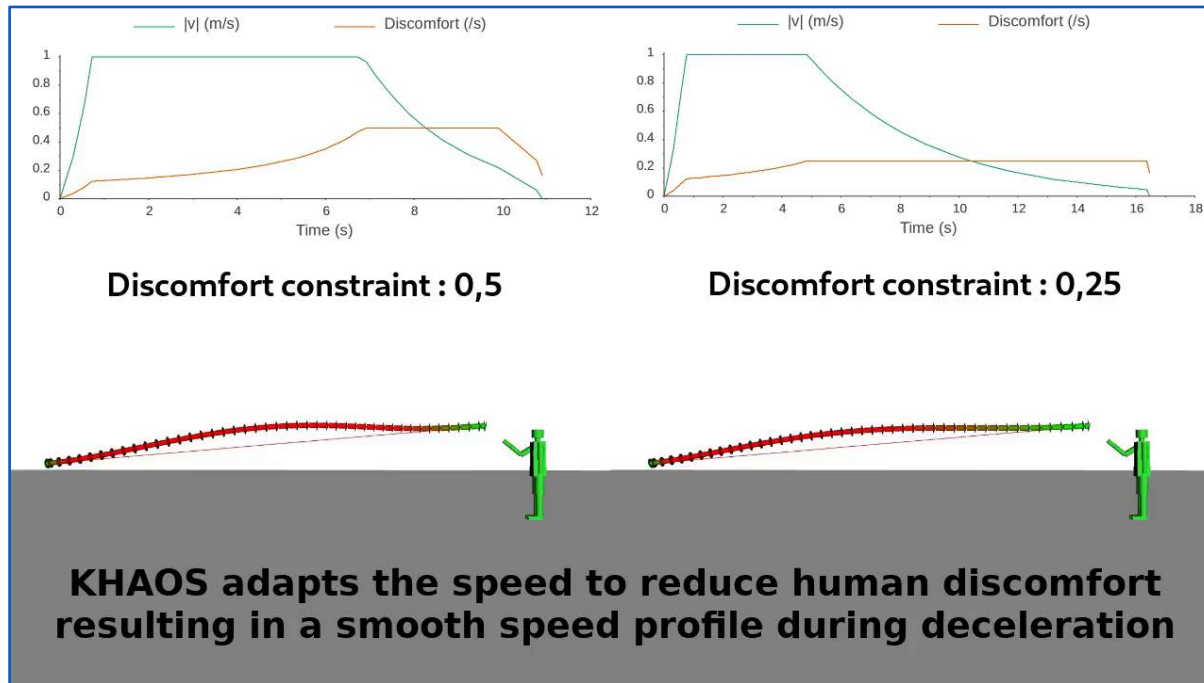
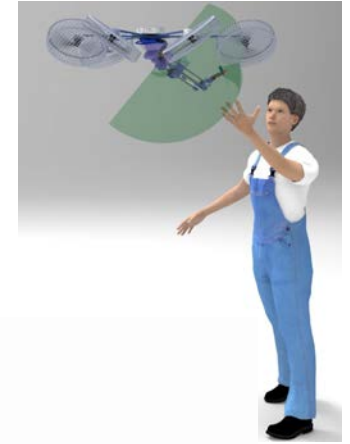


P. T. Singamaneni

Human-aware Motion Planning of an Autonomous Aerial Manipulator

KHAOS : a Kinematic Human Aware Optimization-based System for Reactive Planning of Flying-Coworker

- Planning Human-aware motion integrating **visibility**, **proxemics** and **comfort**
- Reactive planning UAV + Manipulator



J. Truc, D. Sidobre, S. Ivaldi, R Alami, **KHAOS: a Kinematic Human Aware Optimization-based System for Reactive Planning of Flying-Coworker**, IEEE ICRA 2022, Philadelphia.

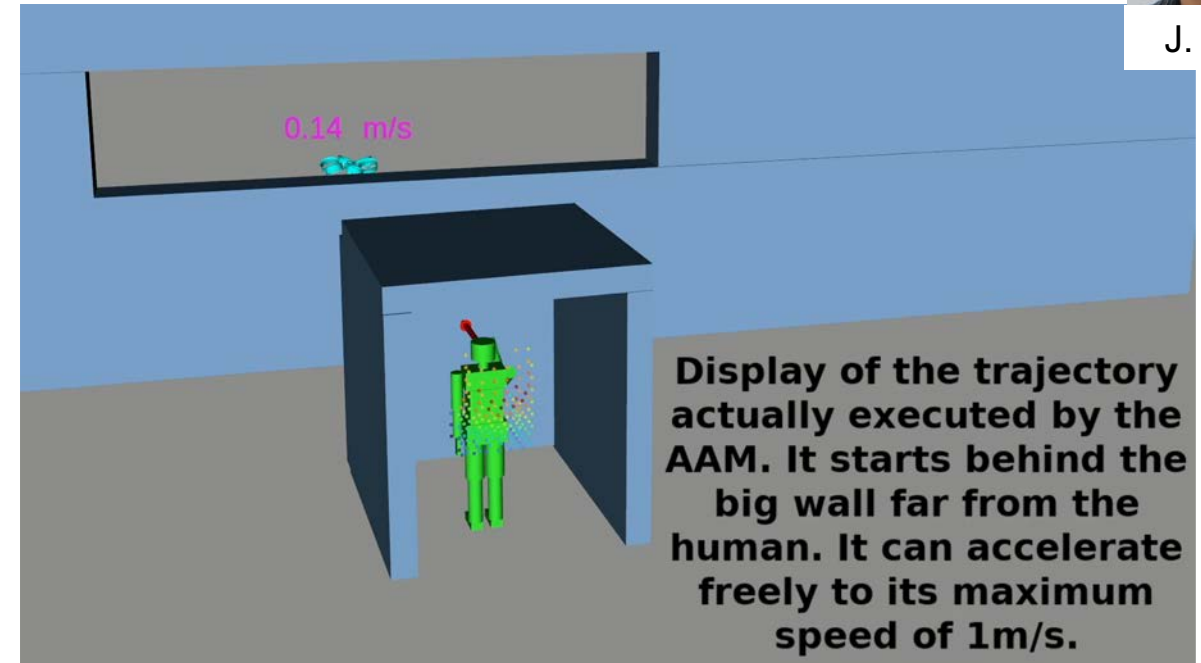
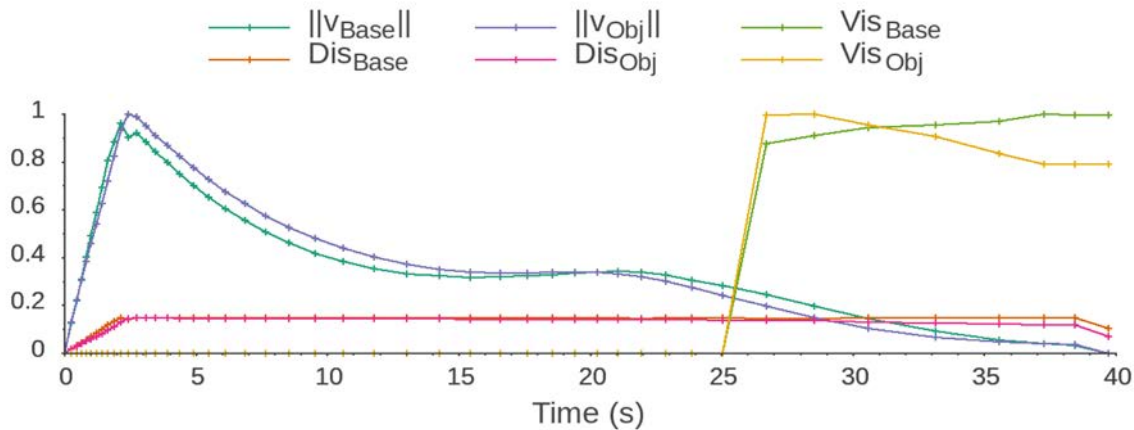
ANITI

Reactive Planning for Coordinated Handover of an Autonomous Aerial Manipulator



J. Truc

Human Aware Reactive kinodynamic
Planning of a coordinated motion (UAV
+ Arm) for a **handover** taking into
account **human reach**, visibility,
proxemics and comfort



Approach and hand-over in a constrained environment and from behind

J. Truc, D. Sidobre, S. Ivaldi, R Alami, **Reactive Planning for Coordinated Handover of an Autonomous Aerial Manipulator**, ACM/IEEE HRI 2023, Stockholm.

Contribution to the creation of a community on social aware navigation

1. Seminars and collaborative work in 2022 et 2023.

- Partners: NVIDIA, Stanford, Google, EPFL, Purdue, CMU, UT Austin, MIT, Northeastern, Georgia Tech, Aston UK, Bar Ilan , Adobe, LAAS-CNRS, Sony AI, Honda, Yale, GMU, Apple
- A publication “**Principles and for Evaluating Social Robot Navigation Algorithms**” (sur ArXiv <https://arxiv.org/abs/2306.16740>) submitted to à ACM Transactions on HRI.

2. Editorial board of a Frontiers of Robotics and AI “Human-Aware Navigation for Autonomous Systems”

3. Two workshops at International IROS 2022 and IROS 2023

4. Direct Collaborations

- Aston University, ISTC-CNR Roma, Sapienza University University of Extremadura, UPC Barcelona, University of Leon, INRIA, CLLE
- Joint Publications
- Survey: **A Survey on Socially Aware Robot Navigation: Taxonomy and Future Challenges**, P. T. Singamaneni, P. Bachiller-Burgos, L. J. Manso, A. Garrell, A. Sanfeliu, A. Spalanzani, R. Alami (<https://arxiv.org/abs/2311.06922>) submitted to IJRR

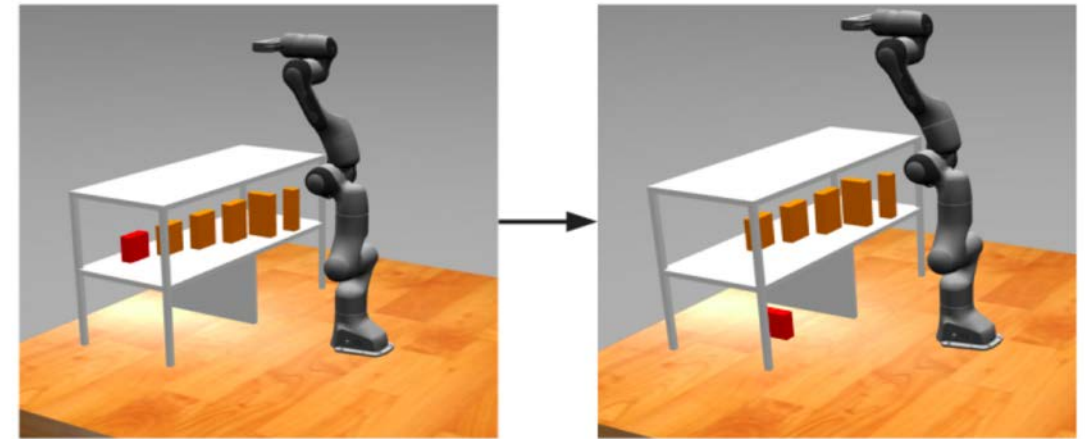
2- Combined Task and Motion Planning

Combined Task and Motion Planning

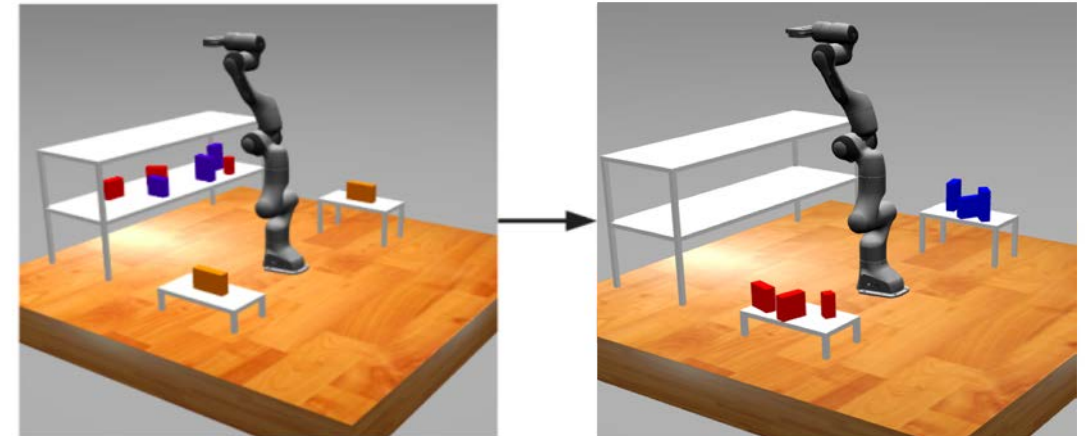
CTAMP: Intricate problems which cannot be resolved in a classical hierarchical decomposition: Symbolic Task Planner then Geometric Planning

Previous contribution to CTAMP: Formulations / Algorithms

→ The combination of discrete symbolic search with continuous geometric planning results often in a combinatorial explosion



(a) *Access domain*

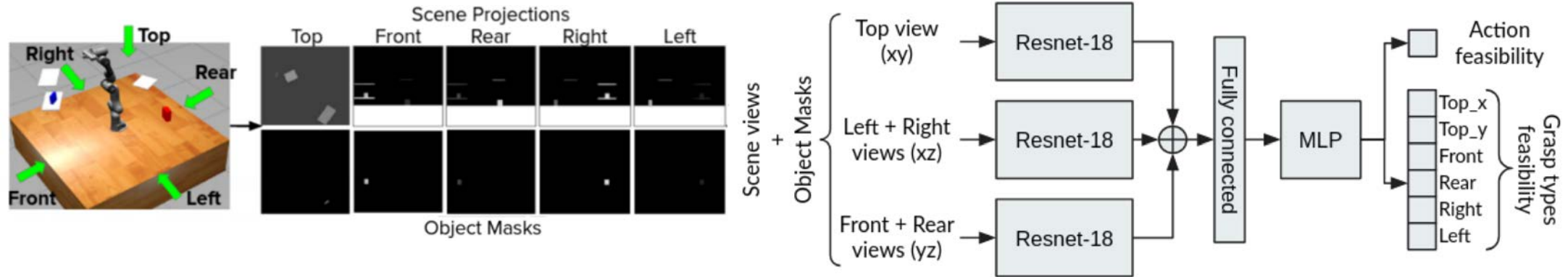


(b) *Sort domain*



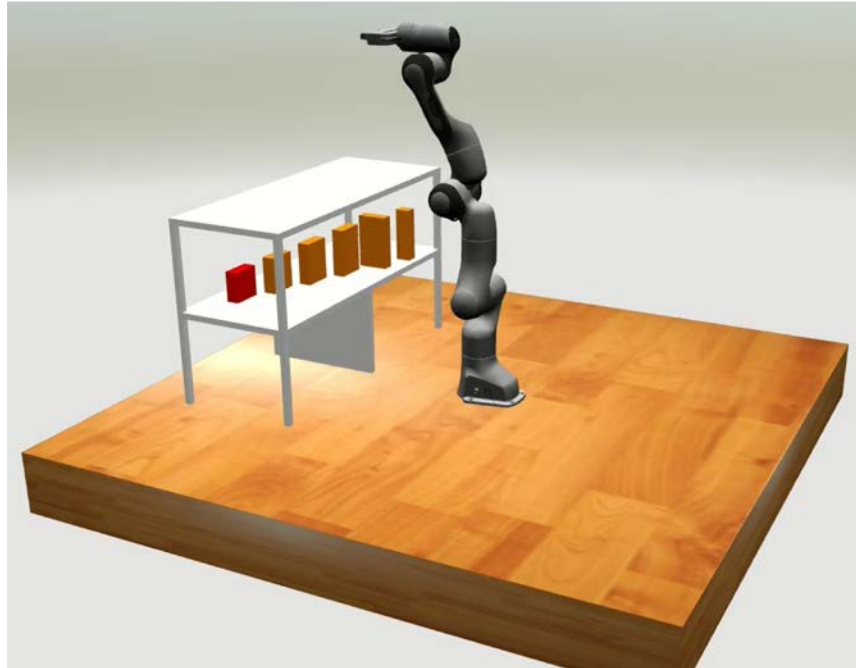


S. Bouhsain

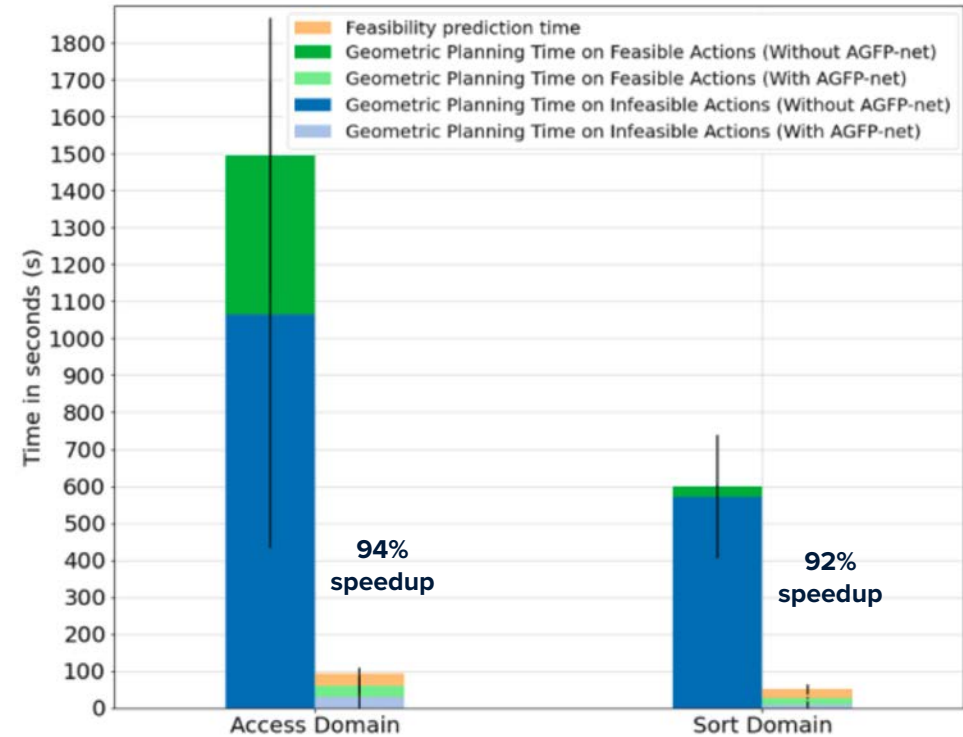


- Simultaneous Action and Grasp Feasibility Prediction for Task and Motion Planning through Multi-Task Learning:
 - **AGFP-Net predicts the feasibility of pick and place actions separately**
 - A complete pick-place action is feasible only if there is at least **one common feasible grasp** between the separate pick and place actions
 - **Rich geometric information** given to the TAMP algorithm by the neural network
 - Handle fully-specified and partially-specified goals
 - **Tackle problems with higher combinatorial complexity**

Performance of Feasibility-Informed TAMP



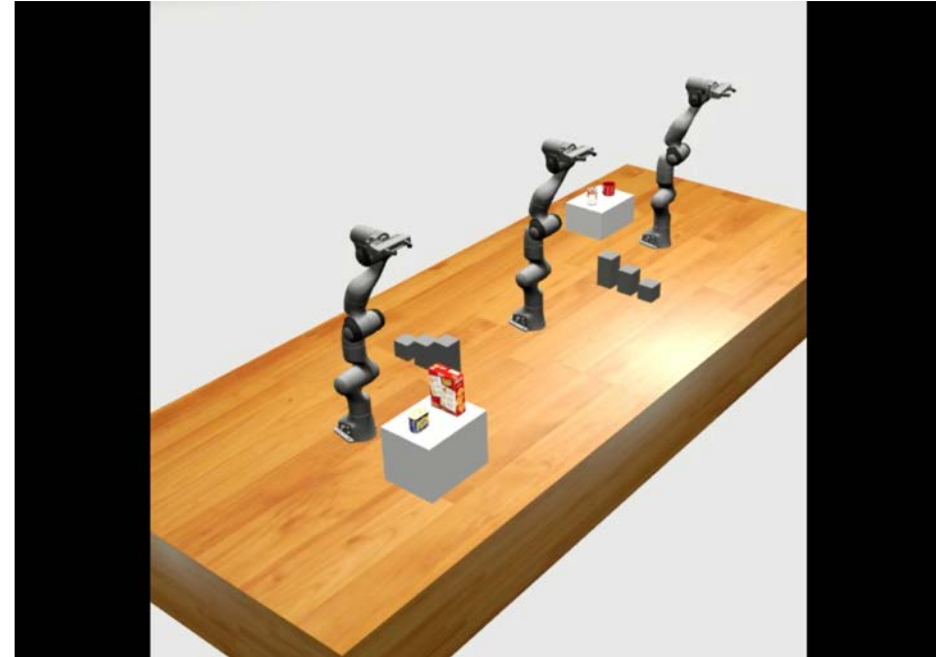
Domain	Method	Heuristic	Infeasible Task Plans	Total Planning Time (s)
Sort	Bouhsain et al. 2023		Not handled	
	Proposed	None AGFP-Net	108.3 1.1	599.1 50.0
Access	Bouhsain et al. 2023		Planning Failure	
	Proposed	None AGFP-Net	339.3 1.9	1500.1 95.2



Recent extensions



S. Bouhsain



Smail Ait Bouhsain, Rachid Alami, Thierry Siméon, **Learning to Predict Action Feasibility for Task and Motion Planning in 3D Environments**, IEEE ICRA 2023, London:

Smail Ait Bouhsain, Rachid Alami, Thierry Sméon, **Simultaneous Action and Grasp Feasibility Prediction for Task and Motion Planning through Multi-Task Learnings**, IEEE IROS 2023, Detroit

3- Task Planning

- Solver for Planning / Scheduling: Temporal & Hierarchical Planning
- Refinement-based Acting Engine with a Hierarchical Temporal Planner
- Learning Plan and Task Operational Models from Demonstrations
- HR Situation assessment and estimation of Human belief about environment and task
- Planning shared H&R plans with explicit management of H & R beliefs



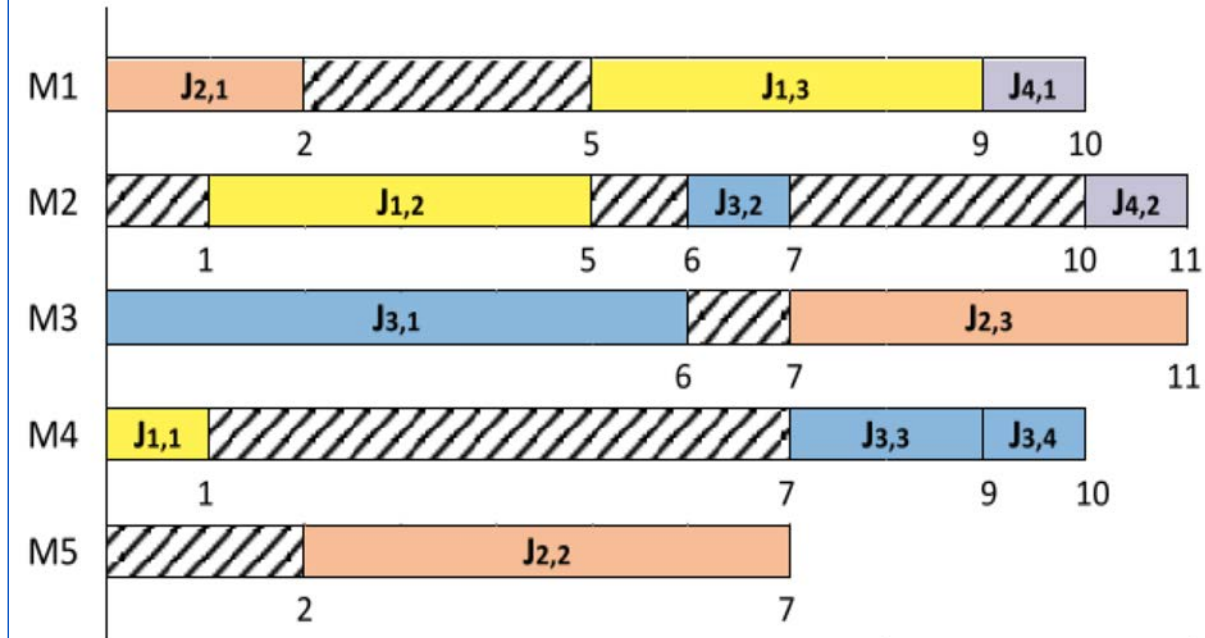
In-house solver for disjunctive scheduling

Fluid integration of approaches from CP and SAT

- Focus on variables with large domains

State of the art on Disjunctive Scheduling (jobshop, openshop) [1]

Experimental exploitation for temporal/hierarchical planning [2]



[1] A. Bit-Monnot , **Enhancing Hybrid CP-SAT Search for Disjunctive**, A. Bit-Monnot. ECAI 2023

[2] A. Bit-Monnot , **Experimenting with Lifted Plan-Space Planning as Scheduling**, IPC 2023

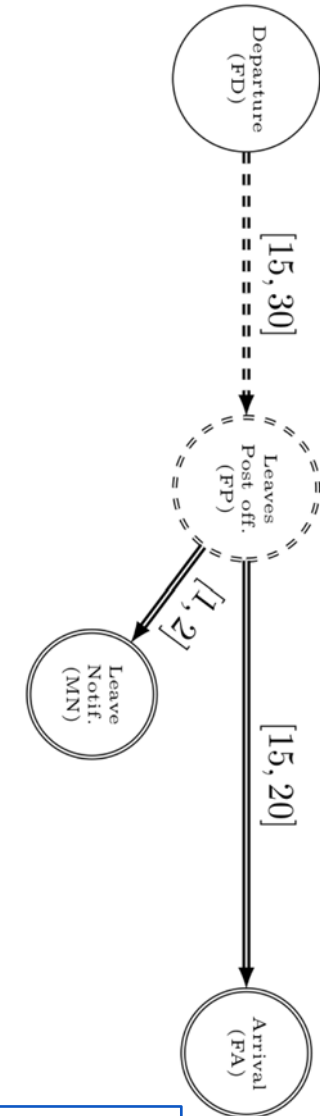


Adapts STNU to work in partially observable environments

- Temporal plans with exogenous events & uncontrollable duration
- Subset of events non-observable

Check for *dynamic controllability* of network

Derives *execution strategies* (dependent on observation)



Learning Hierarchical Planning Models from Demonstrations



P. Hérail

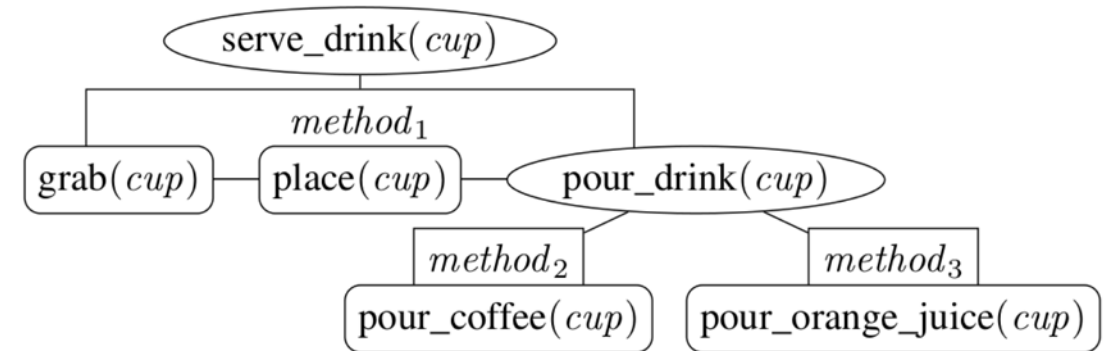
Input: demonstrations of a task

- Action sequences
- From human teacher or optimal solver

Output: hierarchical planning models (HTN)

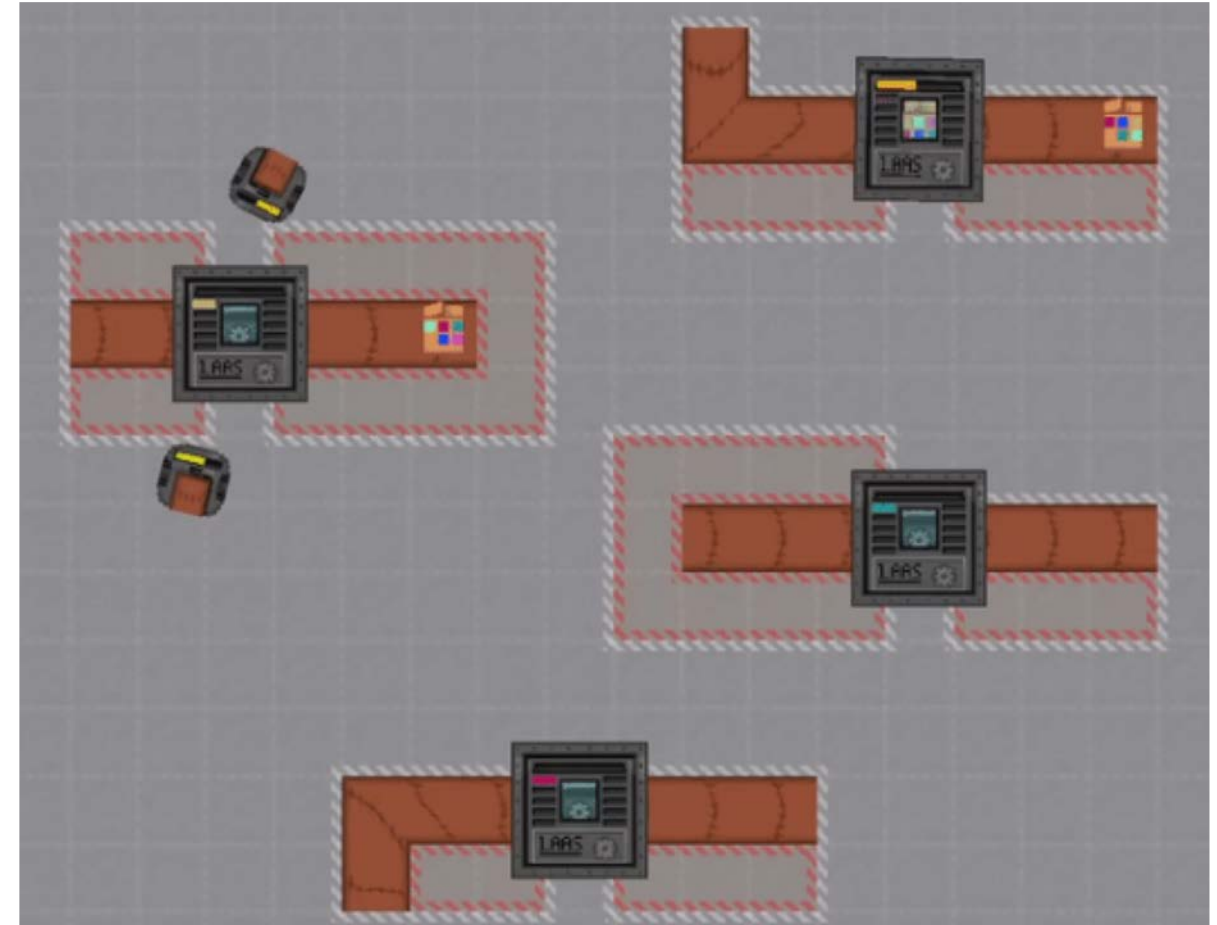
- Decomposition of task in several alternatives (methods)
- Generic with respect to parameters & state

Exploited to improve quality and scalability of existing planners



Guiding A Robotic Actor

- **Architecture for (high-level) robot control**
- **Focus concurrency & time => fleets**
- **Automatic analysis for robot programs to identify decision points**
 - Method selection for task
 - Access priority to resources
- **Planning to provide guidance over decision points**
 - Optimize behavior with a global view (resource efficiency, makespan, ...)

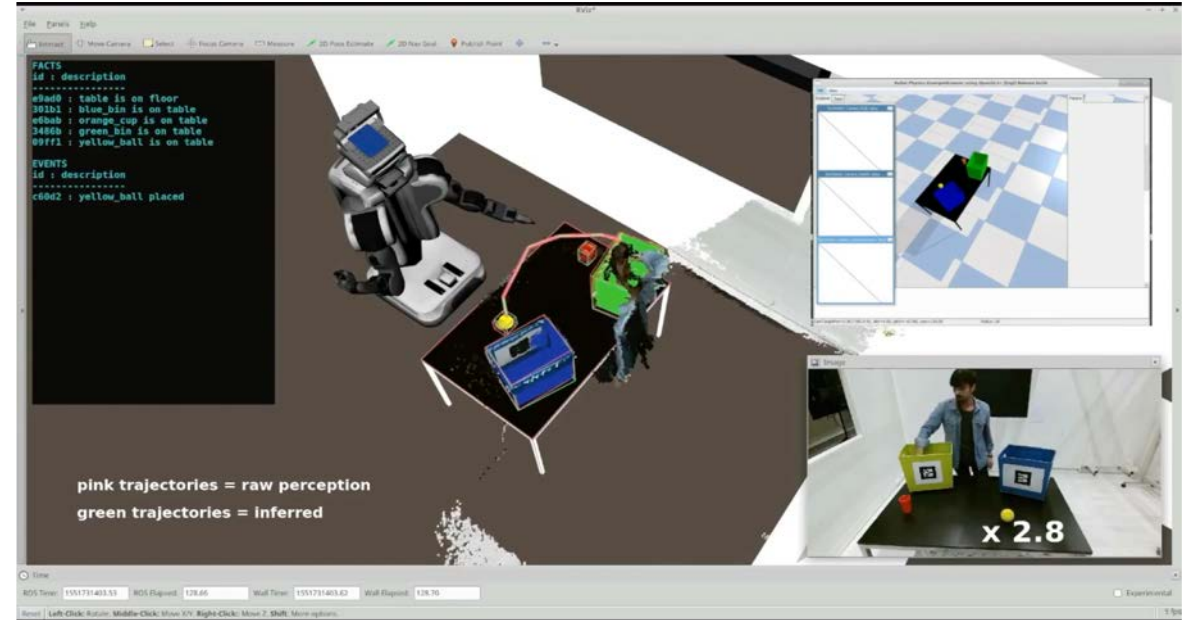


J. Turi

J. Turi, A. Bit-Monnot. **Extending a Refinement Acting Engine for Fleet Management: Concurrency and Resources.** ICTAI 2022

1- Situation assessment and estimation of Human beliefs about environment and task

- **Visual Perspective-taking** estimated by the Robot
- Management and maintenance of **semantic knowledge**, and **chronicles** for the robot and **estimation of the beliefs** its of **Human partner**
- **Simulation-based physics reasoning** for consistent scene estimation



Y. Sallami



G. Sarthou

Robot able to track the state of the **yellow object** manipulated by the **Human** even when it is inside the **blue box** or poured into the **green box**, then the **red object** poured from the **green box** to the **blue box**.

Y. Sallami, S. Lemaignan, A. Clodic, R. Alami, **Simulation-based physics reasoning for consistent scene estimation in an HRI context**, IEEE IROS 2019

G. Sarthou, A. Clodic, R. Alami, **Ontologenius : A long-term semantic memory for robotic agents**, IEEE RO-MAN 2019

Referring Expression Generation (REG) in Human Robot Interaction

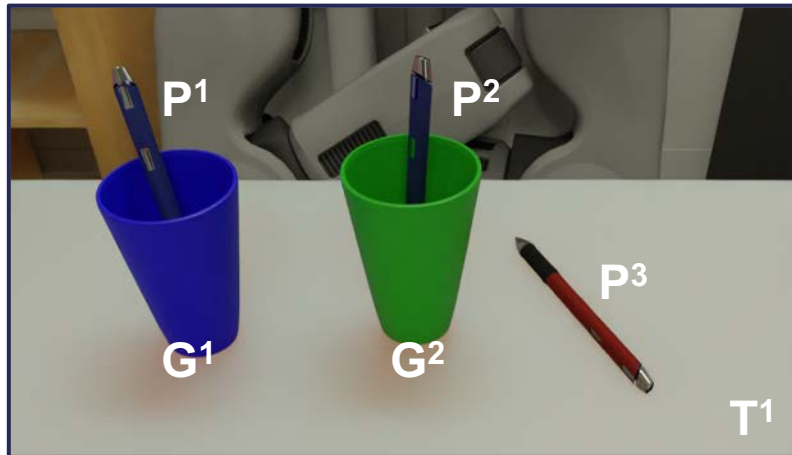
- Exploits **Distinct Human and Robot Perspectives** (Visibility / Affordances)
- Ontology based: using object attributes, relations between objects, hierarchical task description
- Cost-based Algorithm:
 - ensures **non-ambiguity** of the target entity in the REG
 - uses **shared knowledge** about **past** Human-Robot collaborative **activity**
 - **integrated** within a task planner



G. Sarthou



G. Buisan



« (?0, isA, Pen), (?0, In, ?1), (?1, isA, Cup), (?1, Color, blue) »



« the knife with which Tony prepared the salad »

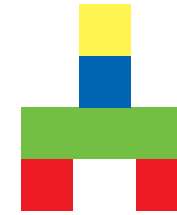
G. Buisan, G. Sarthou, R. Alami, **Human Aware Task Planning Using Verbal Communication Feasibility and Costs**, ICSR 2020.

G. Sarthou, G. Buisan, A. Clodic R. Alami, **Extending Referring Expression Generation through shared knowledge about past Human-Robot collaborative activity**, IEEE IROS 2021

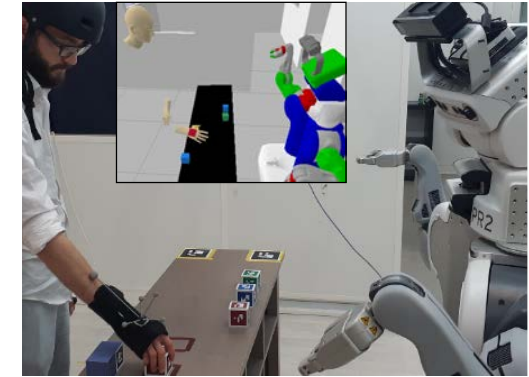
HATP/EHDA: Planning with Emulation of Human Decision and Action

A Robot Task Planner specially dedicated to Human-Robot collaborative task achievement

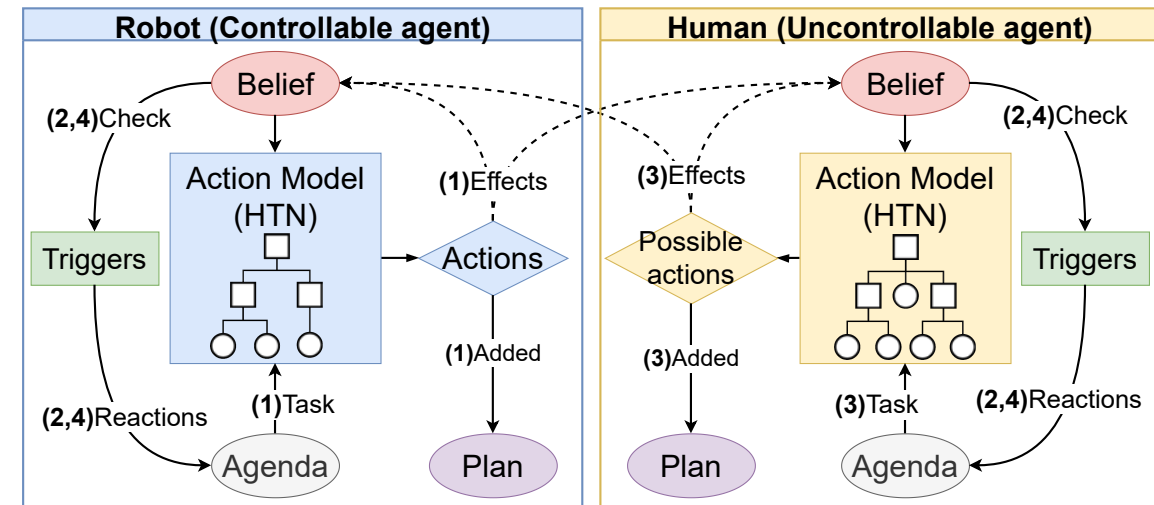
- Maintains and reasons about **distinct beliefs of the robot and the Human** and their evolution over time
- **Plans for the robot and Anticipates Human Planning**
- Can **Anticipate** and/or **Elicit** Human Decisions and Actions
- Plans **communication** actions when needed
- Considers situations where H&R share a **joint goal or not**



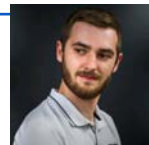
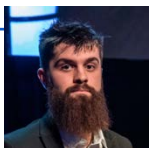
(a) Goal of the stack task



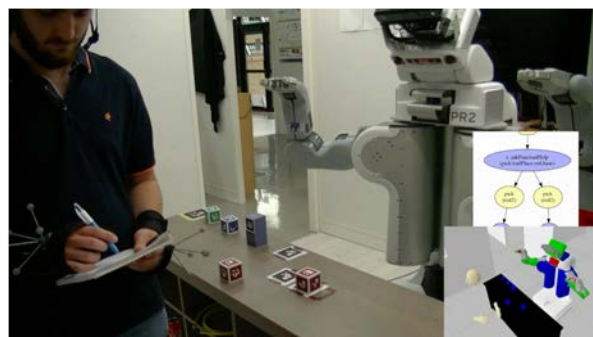
(b) A human and a robot assembling the cube stack



G. Buisan, A. Favier, A. Mayima and R. Alami, **HATP/EHDA: A Robot Task Planner Anticipating and Eliciting Human Decisions and Actions**, IEEE ICRA 2022



Conditional Plan Produced par HATP/EHDA

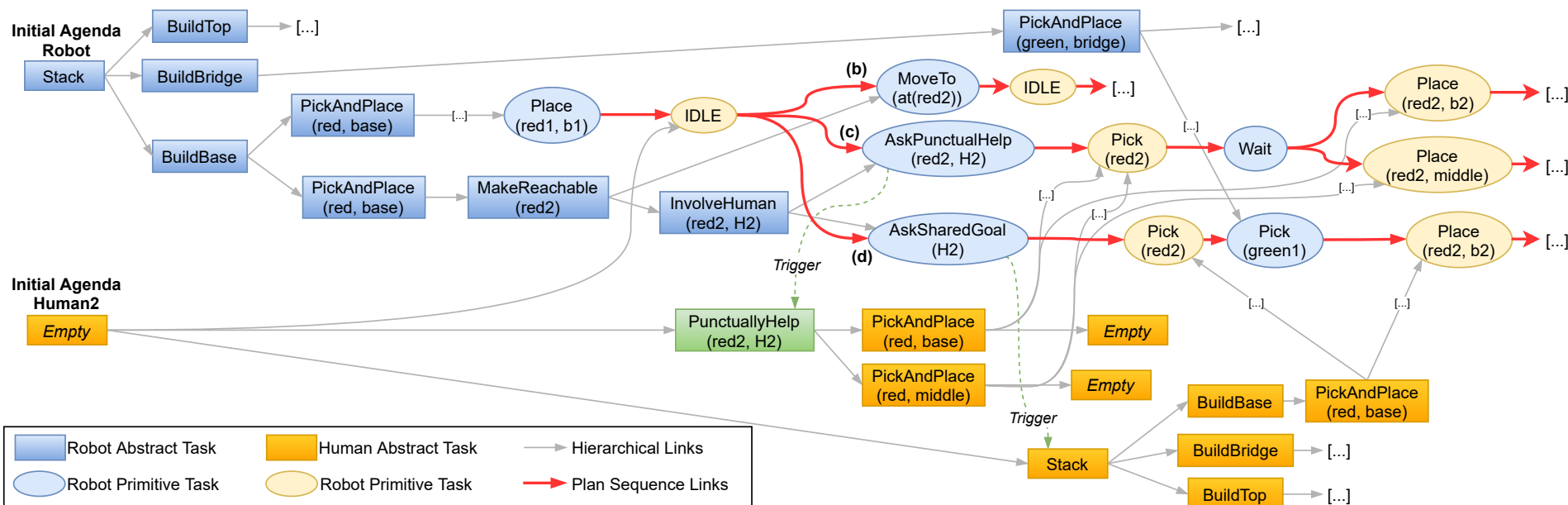


Robot asks for punctual help

Human acts differently

Robot asks to share a joint task

Robot able to anticipate **human decisions** and to determine **when** and **how** to **elicit** Human contribution

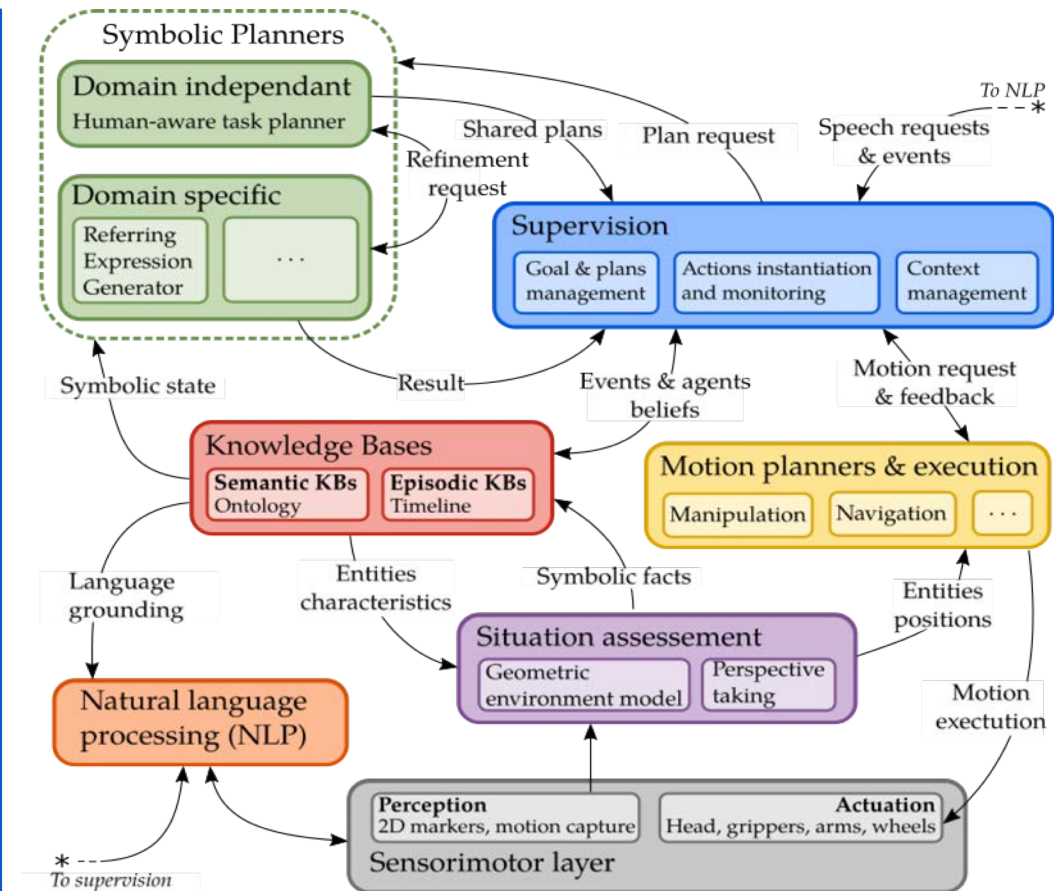


Robot Control Architectures – V&V

Architecture to implement an Integrated approach to HR collaboration

Constructive approach:

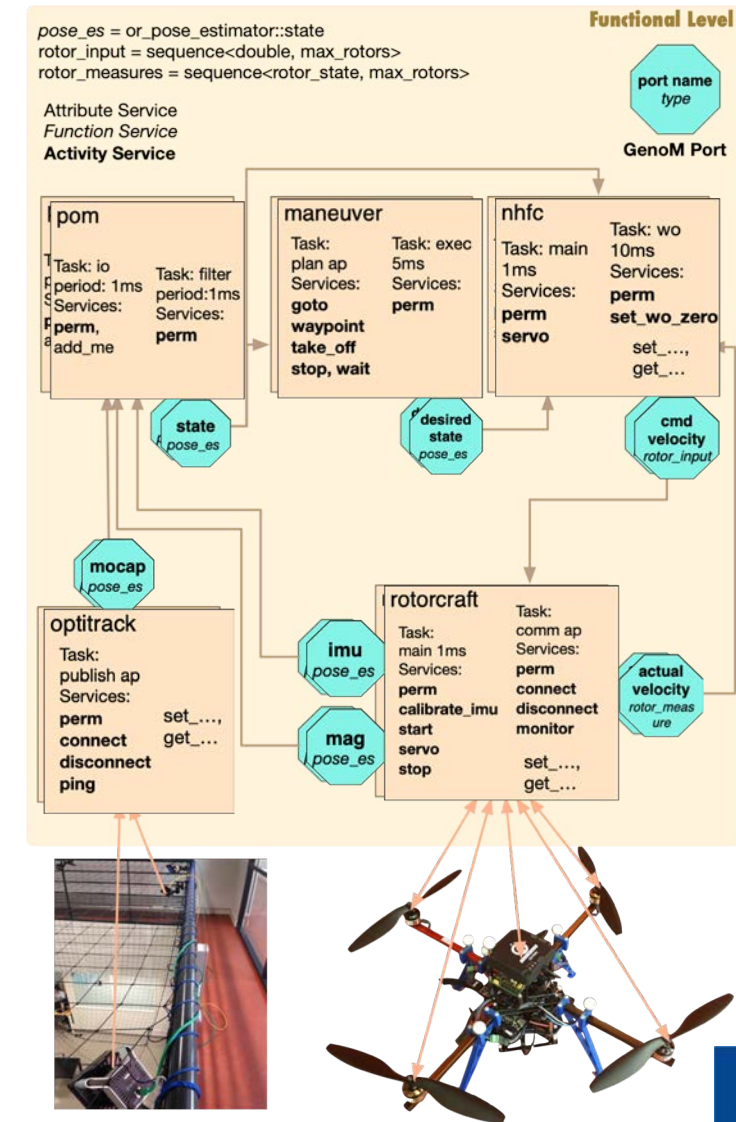
- Adoption and Adaptation of **Joint Action Concepts and Mechanisms**
 - **Models** of Human beliefs, intentions, abilities and preferences
- ❖ **Situation Assessment in H&R context**
- Perspective-Taking
 - Estimation of Human Mental State (ToM)
- ❖ **Human-Aware Task and Motion Reactive Planning for**
- Collaborative Task Achievement
 - and Situation-based Dialog



S. Lemaignan, M. Warnier, E. A. Sisbot, A. Clodic, R Alami, Artificial Cognition for Social Human-Robot Interaction: An Implementation, Artificial Intelligence, Elsevier, 2017

Functional components specification

- GenoM specification language
- Autonomous robots at RIS follow a component based architecture
- Example:
 - Components for localisation (pom and optitrack or GPS),
 - flight control (nhfc),
 - navigation (maneuver),
 - rotorcraft (IMU / mag / propellers measure and velocity control)



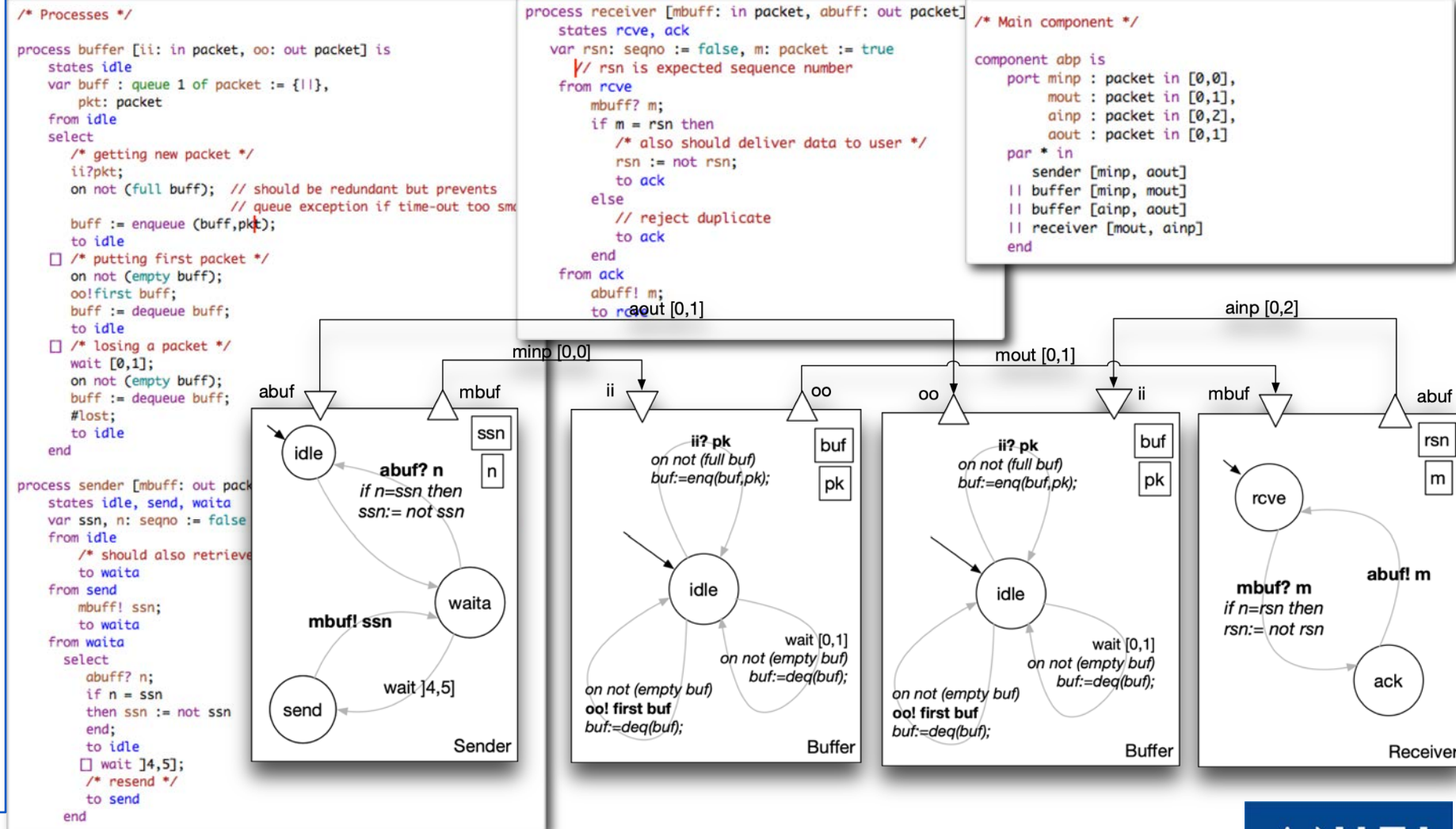
Fiacre Formal Framework: TINA (offline), Hippo (Runtime)

Process:

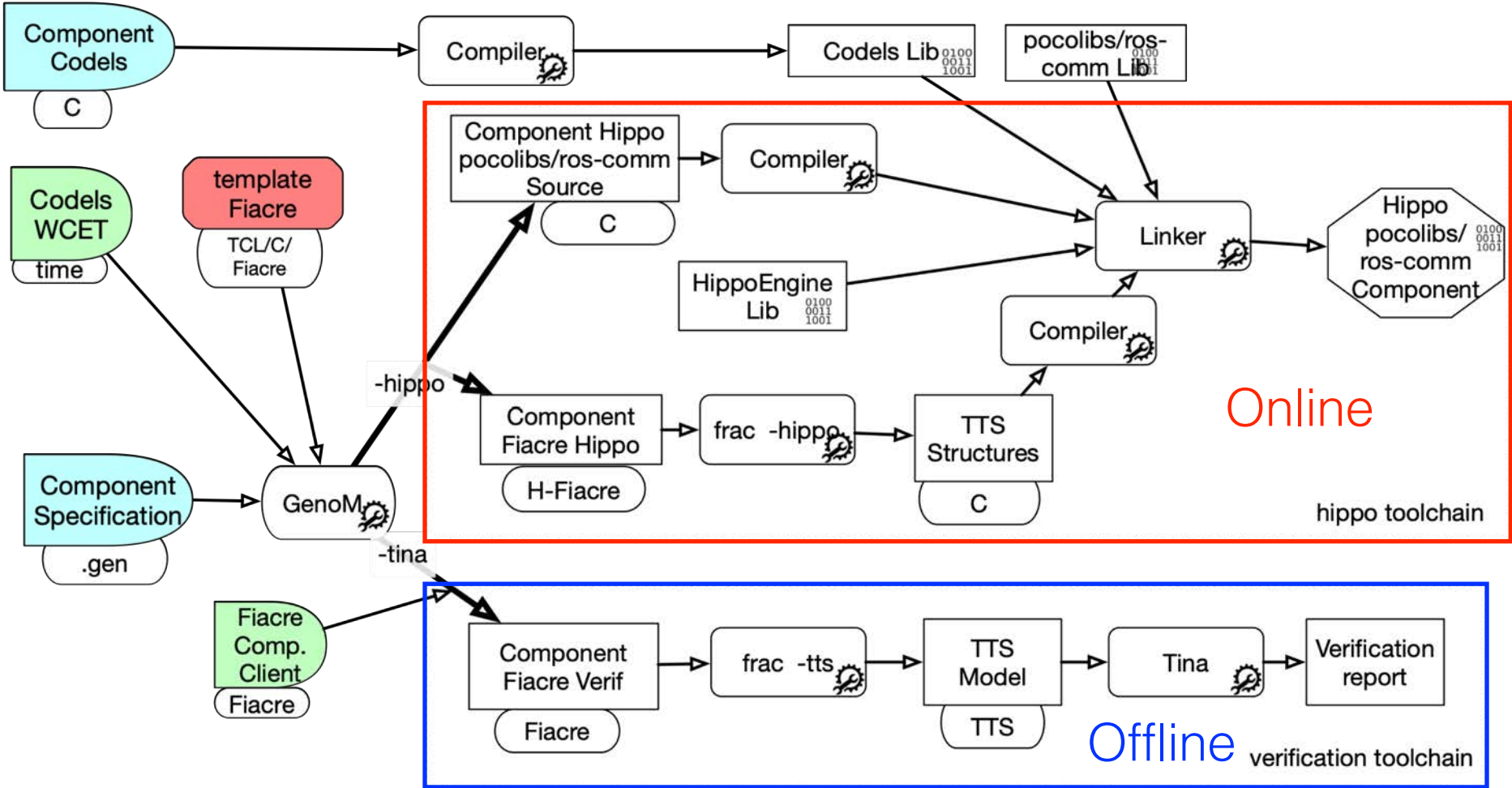
- automata, guarded and timed transitions on ports interaction, with code execution
- local variables
- building components connecting ports

Model checking the resulting TTS with TINA,

Runtime verification with Hippo



FIACRE workflow

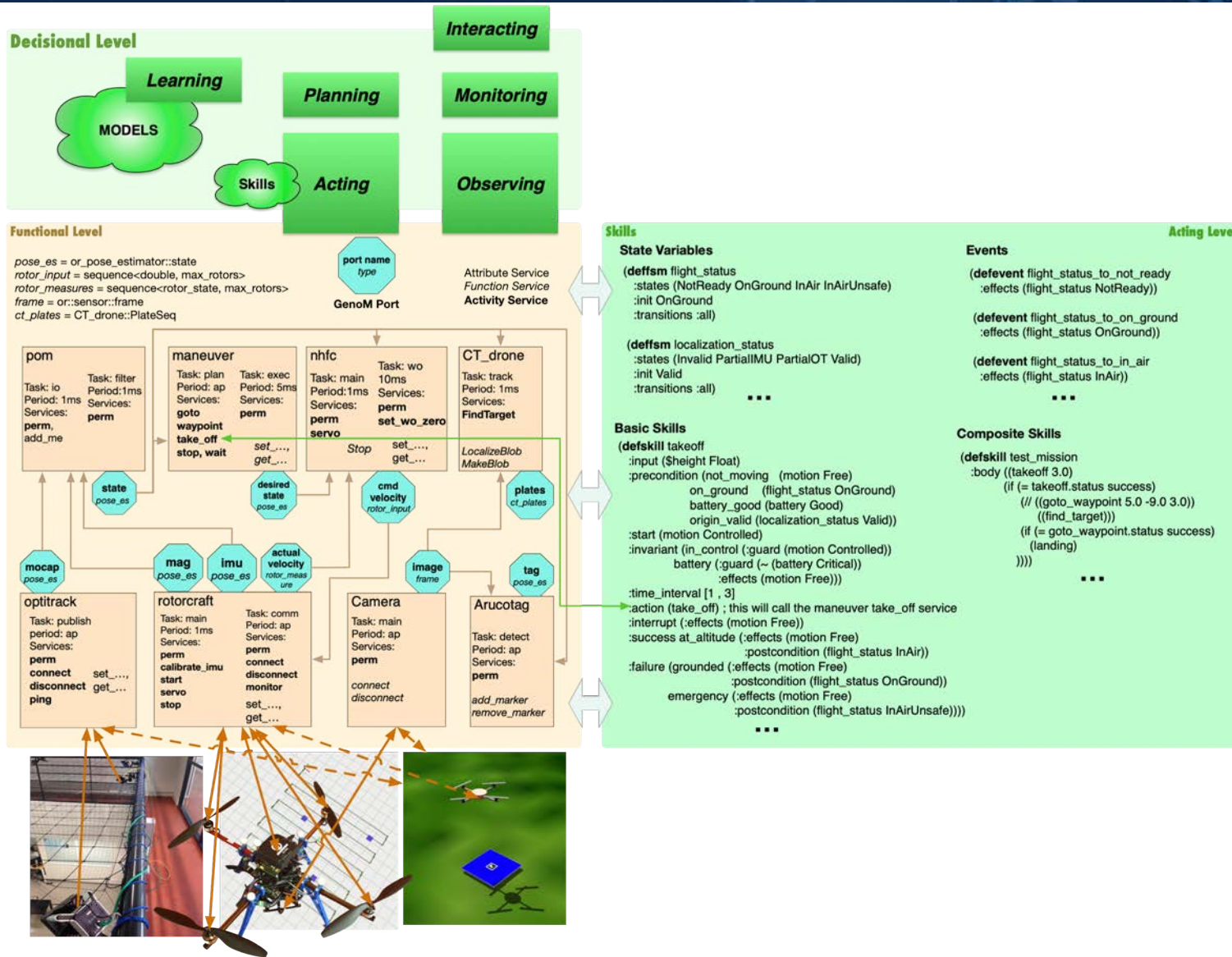


Online

Offline verification toolchain

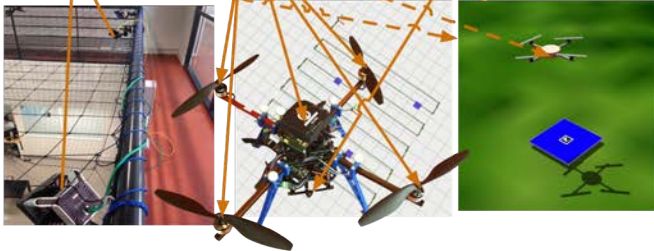


Skill Task Programming Language



Skill language which maps in a formal framework (Fiacre)

- Offline validation and vérification with model checking (TTS/TINA)
- Online runtime verification with TTS execution with Hippo



[A formal toolchain for offline and run-time verification of robotic systems](#)

Silvano Dal Zilio, Pierre-Emmanuel Hladik, Félix Ingrand, Anthony Mallet
Robotics and Autonomous Systems, 2023, 159, pp.104301.

[Composing Complex and Hybrid AI Solutions](#)

Peter Schüller, João Paulo Costeira, James L. Crowley, Jasmin Grosinger, Félix Ingrand, Uwe Köckemann, Alessandro Saffiotti, Martin Welss

[Hippo: A Formal-Model Execution Engine to Control and Verify Critical Real-Time Systems](#)

Pierre-Emmanuel Hladik, Félix Ingrand, Silvano Dal Zilio, Reyyan Tekin
Journal of Systems and Software, 2021, 181

[Verification of Autonomous Robots: A Robotist's Bottom-Up Approach](#)

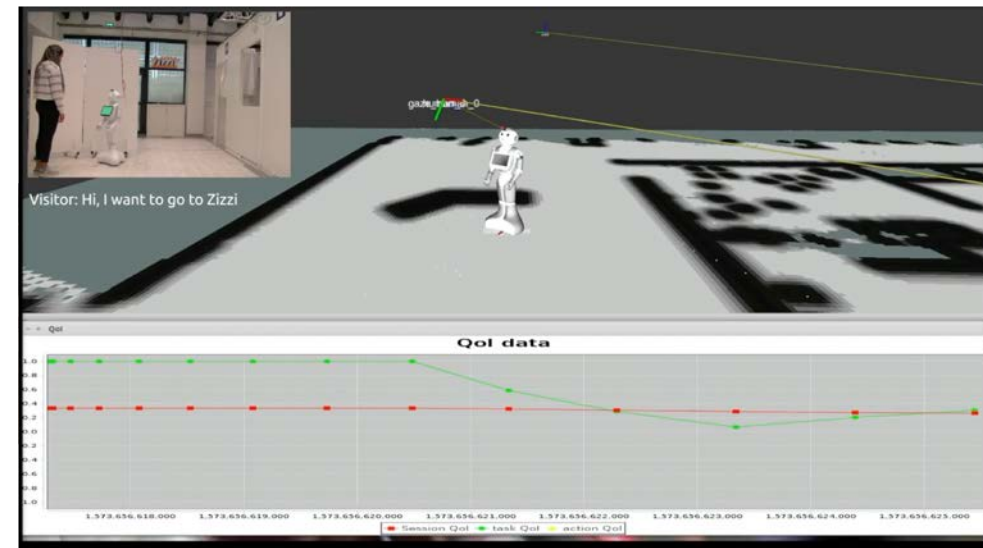
Félix Ingrand
Software engineering for robotics, Springer, pp.219-248, 2021, 978-3-030-66493-0.

On-line Evaluation of Quality of Interaction

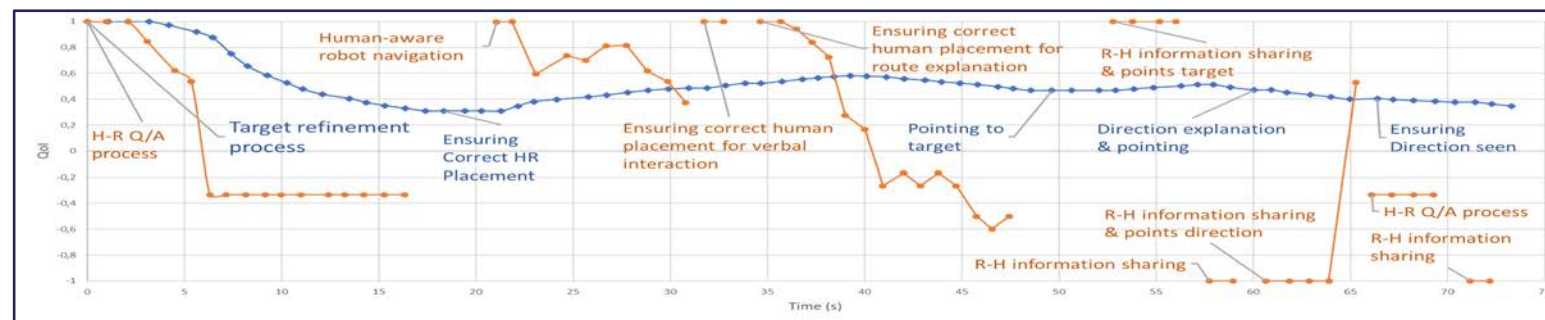
QoI = a measure by the robot indicating how good is the interaction

- Assessment of the QoI at 3 levels : session, task, action
- A set of metrics

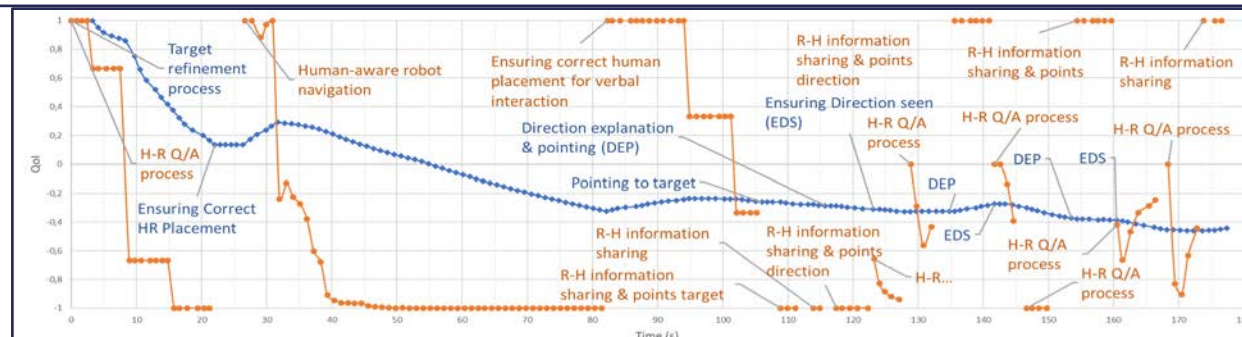
→ A guide robot performing a Direction giving Task



A confused human



A non-cooperative human



A. Mayima

Collaborative Research Projects

Contribution as a key member of the European Robotics and AI community :



(2022-2026) Core partner in euROBIN initiative : European Robotics and AI Network



(2018-2021) Partner in AI4EU (Europe's AI-on-Demand Platform) <https://www.ai4europe.eu/>



(2021-2023) Partner in AIPlan4EU/H2020 <https://www.aiplan4eu-project.eu/>

REUBEN (2022-2023): Referring Expressions for hUman roBot intEractionN) : Défi Clef « Robotique Centrée sur l'Humain » : Collaboration with Madalina Croitoru (LIRMM, Equipe GraphiK)

AI4HRI (2021-2024) (Trilateral AI Japan-Germany-France) Artificial Intelligence for Human-Robot Interaction (A. Clodic, R. Alami)

The Flying Coworker (2019-2023): Projet ANR en collaboration avec INRIA-Nancy

TRAIL (2022-2027) : Marie Curie MSCA Research Network - 2023-2026 (T. Siméon, R. Alami)

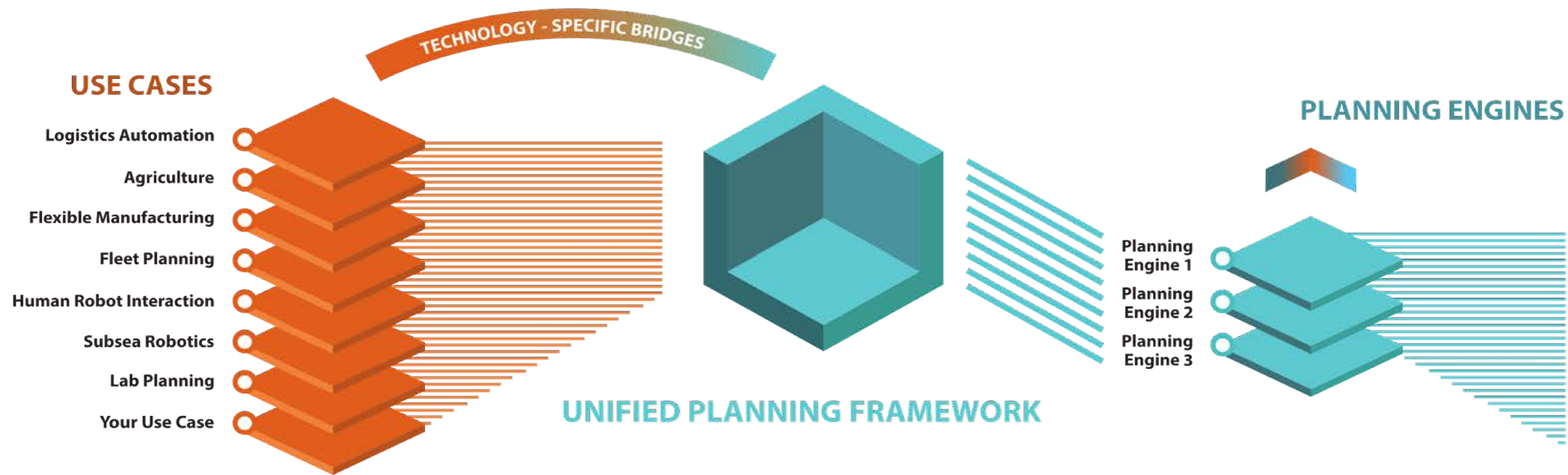
INNOVCARE (2024-2028) : Care-led innovation : the case of eldercare in France and in Japan) – Autonomie : Vieillesse et situations de handicap 2021-2026 (France 2030) - Starts Feb. 2024.

PEPR O2R (2023-2028) : Collaboration avec ISIR et INRIA sur le mouvement expressif Humain-Robot. Starts 2024.

AIPlan4EU (H2020 Project)

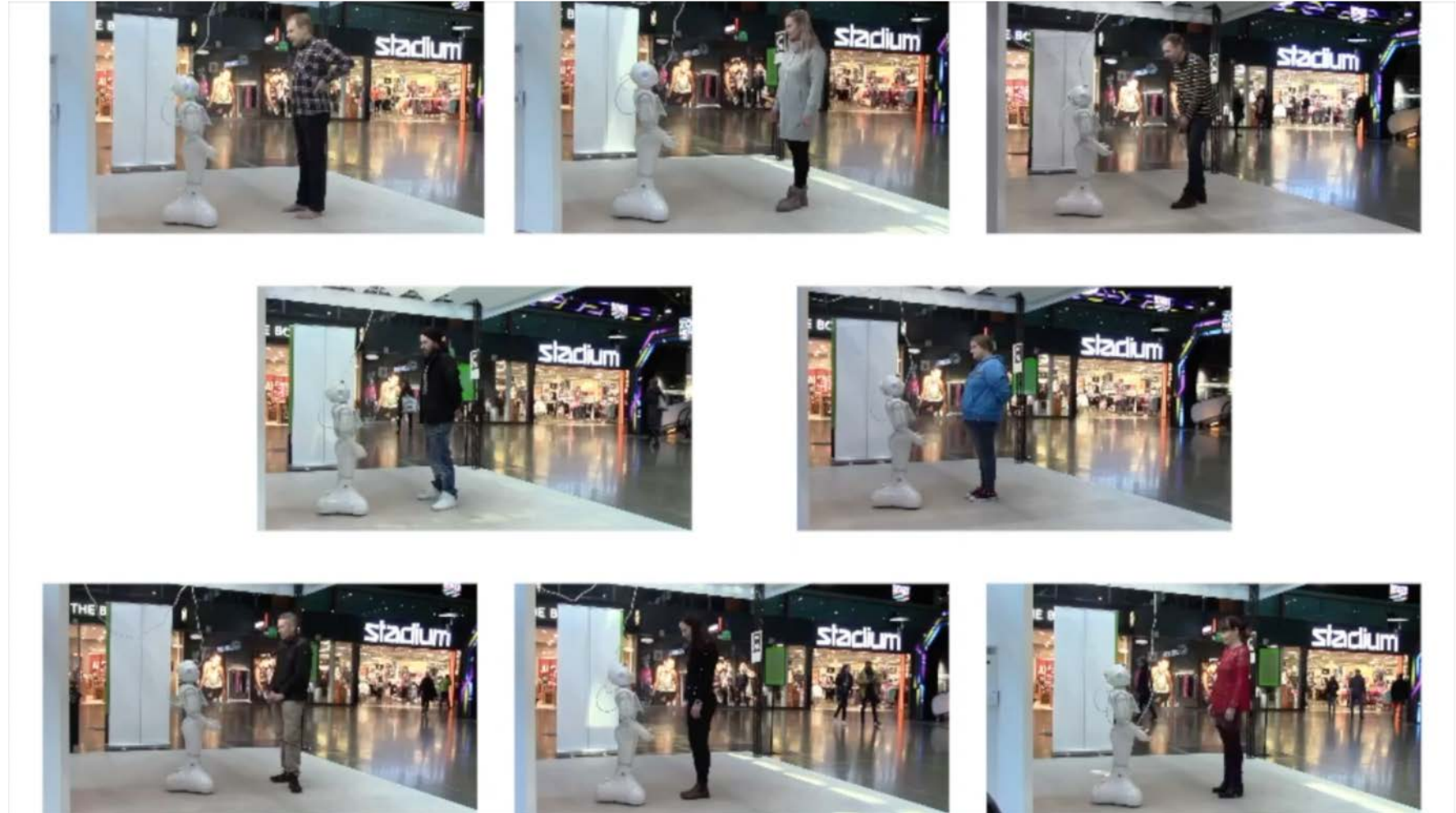


- Python library for AI Planning
- Modeling tools & Planner integration
- Strong community involvement
- Ends in December 2023
 - transition to open source organization (4 maintainers, incl. LAAS)



Mummer: Giving Directions in a mall

- Planning and verbalizing a route for the human
- **Planning HR shared perspective**
- Adapting to human action and requests
- Executing Human-Aware Motion



Plenary Keynotes:

- ROBOPHILOSOPHY 2022, August, Helsinki (Finland)
- ICRES 2022, International Conference on Robot Ethics and Standards, Seoul, July 2022,
- European Robotics Forum 2022 Rotterdam (Netherland)
- 5th CyPhySS 2021, Bangalore (India)
- 17th Int. Conf. on Principles of Knowledge Representation and Reasoning, 2020, Rhodes (Greece)
- 28th IEEE RO-MAN, New Delhi, Oct 2019 (India)



Invited Talks and Seminars in the period (>30) : Université du Québec (**Montréal**), PlanRob ICAPS 2020, Samsung AI (Cambridge, **UK**), Dagstuhl Cognitive Robotics (**Germany**), ERF Malaga (**Spain**), MBZIRC Symposium 2020 (**Abu Dhabi**), Institutional Robotics Lisboa (**Portugal**), Future Intelligence 2021 (**Toulouse**), NII-Shonan (**Japan**),

Important Dissemination Activity : 15 events

PhD Award: Kathleen Belhassein , Prix de Thèse 2022 de la Maison des Sciences de l'Homme et de la Société de Toulouse

Paper Awards: 1 Best paper, 2 Finalist Best and Student Paper

Organized events: 7 events

PhDs: Already Defended

1. **Yoan Sallami (2016-2021)** Thesis Defence 01/2021: Perspective taking in HR collaborative context- Université Paul Sabatier - Toulouse III, 2021 (R. Alami)
2. **Guilhem Buisan (2017-2021)** Thesis Defence 07/2021: Planning For Both Robot and Human: Anticipating and Accompanying Human Decisions (R. Alami)
3. **Amandine Mayima (2017-2021)** Endowing the Robot with the Abilities to Control and Evaluate its Contribution to a Human-Robot Joint Action, INSA de Toulouse, 2021. (A. Clodic, R. Alami)
4. **Kathleen Belhassein (2017-2021)** - « Propositions de stratégies communicatives pour une action jointe Humain-Robot efficace, fluide et durable » - Université Jean Jaurès, Décembre 2021 (M. Guidetti, R. Alami)
5. **Guillaume Sarthou (2018-2021)** - Knowledge representation and exploitation for interactive and cognitive robots - Université Paul Sabatier - Toulouse III, 2021
6. **Phani Teja Singanameni (2019-2022)** - Combining proactive planning and situation analysis for human-aware robot navigation - Université Paul Sabatier - Toulouse III, 2022.
7. **Jérôme Truc (2019-2023)** - Human-aware motion planning and control for a flying coworker Université Paul Sabatier - Toulouse III, 2023. English. (co-encadré avec D. Sidobre)

1. **Anthony Favier (2021-2024)** : Human-Aware Task Planning (ANITI)
2. **Jérémy Tury (2021-2024)** : Refinement-based Acting Engine with a Hierarchical Temporal Planner
3. **Philippe Hérail (2021-2024)** : Learning Plan and Task Operational Models from Demonstrations (A. Bit-Monnot)
4. **Smail AIT BOUHSAIN (2021-2024)** : Combined Task and motion planning (T. Siméon, R. Alami)
5. **Simon Wasiela (2021-2024)** : Control-Aware Motion Planning (T. Siméon)
6. **Emmanuel Bazucchi (2021-2024)** - co-advised with Anne-Laure Gatignon Turnau
7. **Kevin Alcedo (2023-2026)** – co-advised with Prof. Pedro Lima (IST Lisbonne)

1. **Víctor Fernández-Castro (2019-2021):** Philosopher – Joint Action - Commitments in Human-Robot Interaction
2. **Hendry Ferreira Chame (2020-2021):** Sensori-motor processes for Human-Robot Interaction – Joint Intention (ANITI)
3. **Phani Teja Singamaneni (2022-2024):** Human Aware social robot Navigation
4. **Shashank Shekhar (2021-2024):** Integration of Semantic reasoning and Epistemic Planning in Human-Aware Task Planning –

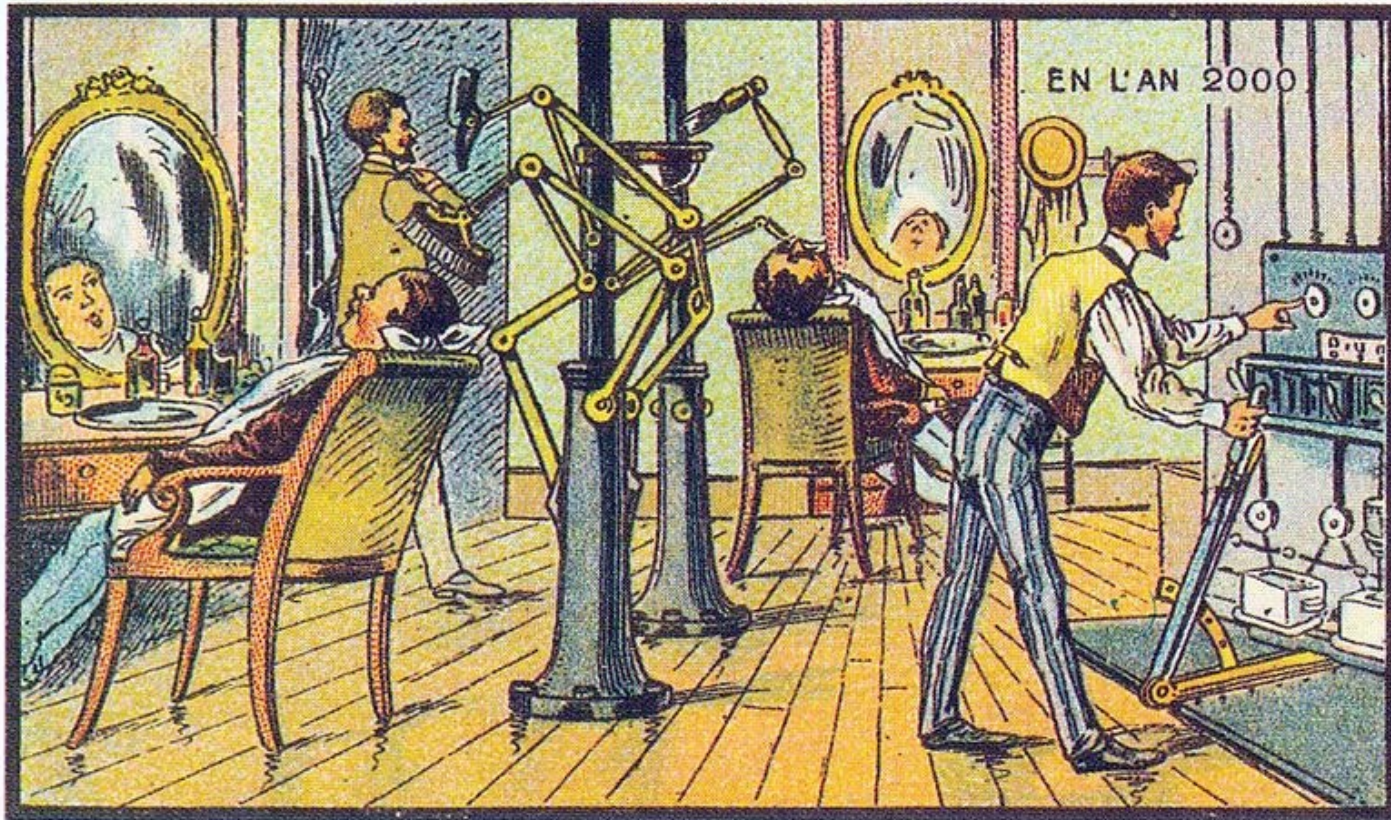
- **Vicente Matellán Olivera**, Universidad de León (September 2021-July 2022)
- **Camino Fernandez Llamas**, Universidad de León (September 2021-July 2022)
- **Alessandro Umbrico** , CNR Rome (November 2022)
- **Gerardo Pérez González**, Universidad de Extremadura (June 2023- October 2023)

Some papers



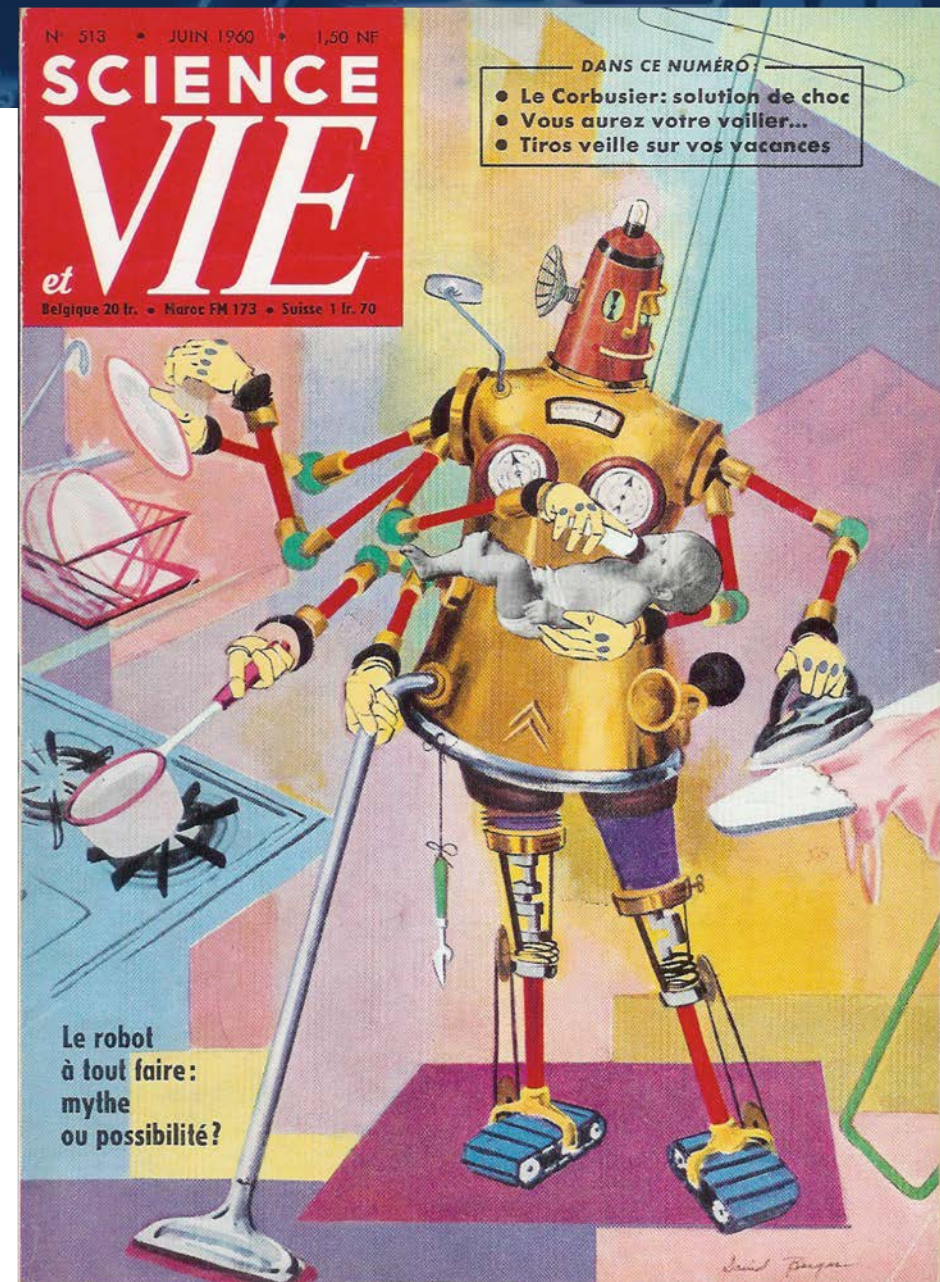
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Thanks... Questions ?



The New-Fangled Barber

Futuristic pictures by Jean-Marc Côté issued in France in 1900
(cited by I. Asimov)



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