

# „Terrainerkennung und Terrainanpassung für die Prothetik verschiedene Entwicklungsansätze.“

TU Darmstadt, 15. August 2012

Fraunhofer IPA, Stuttgart Abteilung „Biomechatronische Systeme“  
Dr. Urs Schneider, Florian Dennerlein, Felix Starker, Harald von Rosenberg



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## Scope of activities

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### Research & Development

- Prosthetics & Orthotics and Rehabilitation
- Functional Testing
- Orthopedic Surgery

### Education & Training

- Lecture „Mechatronics in Orthopedics“, Stuttgart University
- P&O Technology Seminars „Stuttgart Talks“ for CPOs
- Establishment of German P&O association O-PAEDIX

### Standard activities

- Prosthetics test standards  
CEN/TC 293 / WG5 and ISO/TC 168 / WG3
- Initiation of German „sensor data fusion“ standard group

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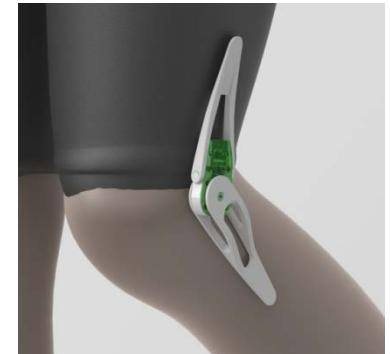
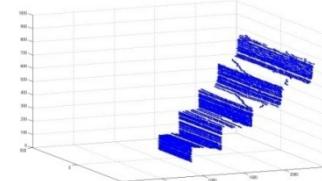
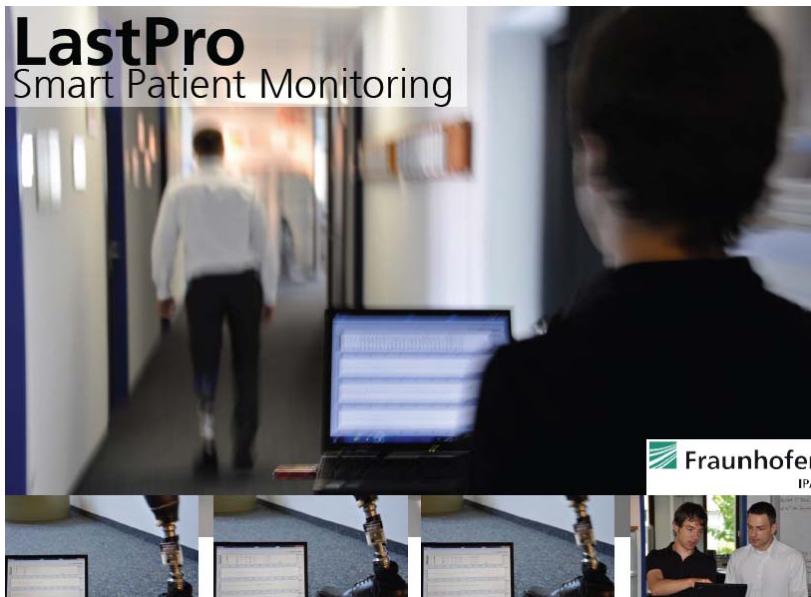
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**O-PAEDIX**  
Netzwerk für innovative Orthopädiertechnik

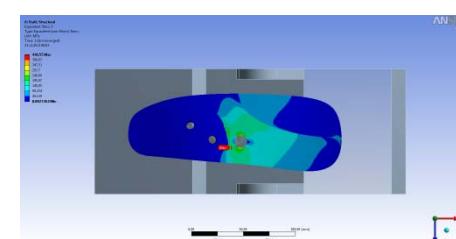
# Department „Biomechatronic Systems“

## Prosthetics & Orthotics Research Examples



Terrain detection

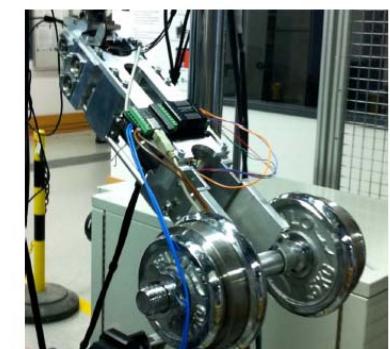
Activity Monitoring



Foot engineering

Orthotic Drives

Virtual 22675 testing



Robot Testing

Prosthetic Drives

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# Rehabilitation Research Cooperation between Minneapolis VA Healthcare System & Fraunhofer IPA Stuttgart



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## Incidence of falling

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- Approx 1/3 of all above 65 fall once per year.  
Approx. 50% of those elderly who only stay inside (mobility class 2) fall once per year  
10 to 20% need therapy after falling  
5 to 6 % suffer from fall related fractures.

[JH Downton 1995; ME Tinetti 2003]

- Approx. 70% of all above knee amputees falls once or more per year.  
Injury risk of above knee amputees with passive knee joints is approx. double relative to non amputee group of same age.

[S Bunke 2010; C Gauthier-Gagnon et al. 1999; WC Miller 2001]



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## Reasons for falling

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Half of all falling incidences on even terrain.

15% of falling incidences on stairs and ramps.

Amputee feedback on reasons for falling:

unseen obstacles > inattention > false estimation of terrain > malfunction of prostheses > false estimation of prosthesis function > imbalance

[S Bunke 2010]



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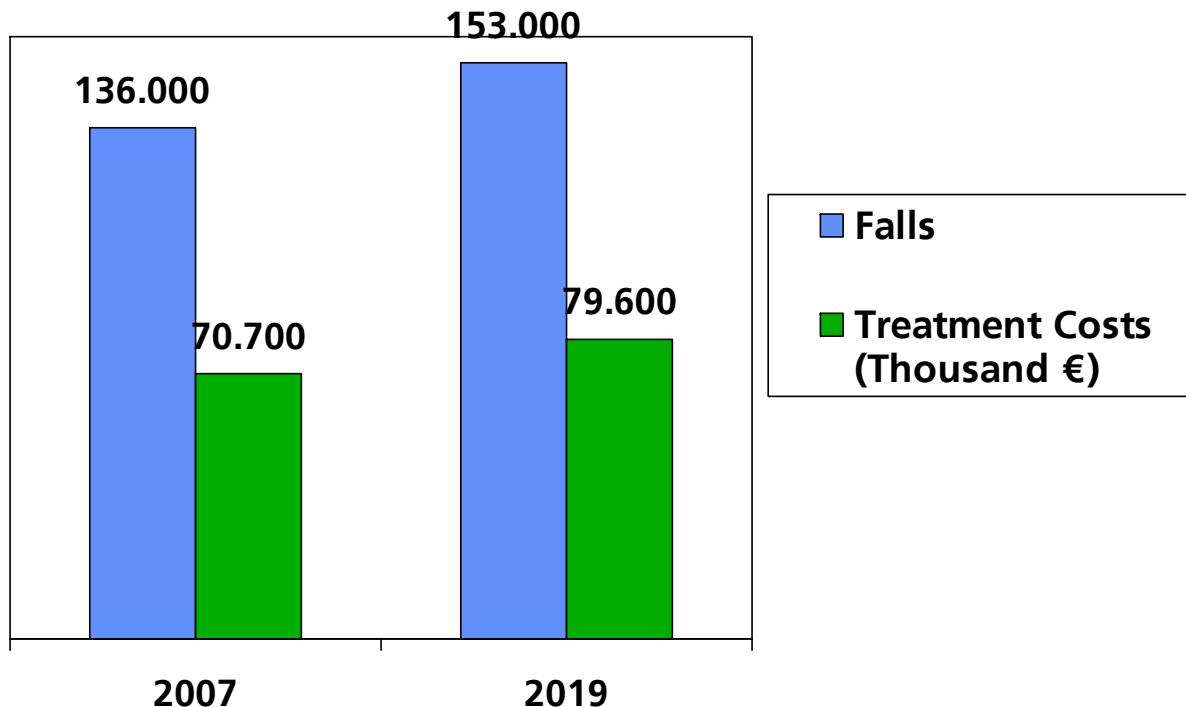
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# Falling of Amputees

U. Schneider, Fraunhofer IPA: Terrainerkennung und Terrainanpassung für die Prothetik

32% of all bellow knee amputees fall once per year (Brit. Prosthetics Failure Registry, 2009)

Falls and related treatment costs in Europe (NHS, 2009)



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Approach 1: Optic terrain detection for active terrain adaptation

Approach 2: Passive terrain detection for passive terrain adaptation

Approach 3: User foot control for active terrain adaptation

Definition:

„active“ stands for drive controlled;

passive stands for a mechanic solution without electronics and drives.

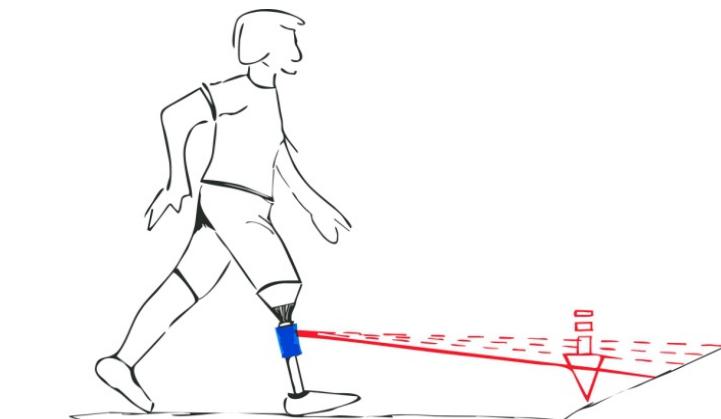


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## Approach 1: Optic terrain detection for active terrain adaptation

Basic idea:  
real time obstacle detection  
for automatic control of sagital ankle/ foot plate inclination



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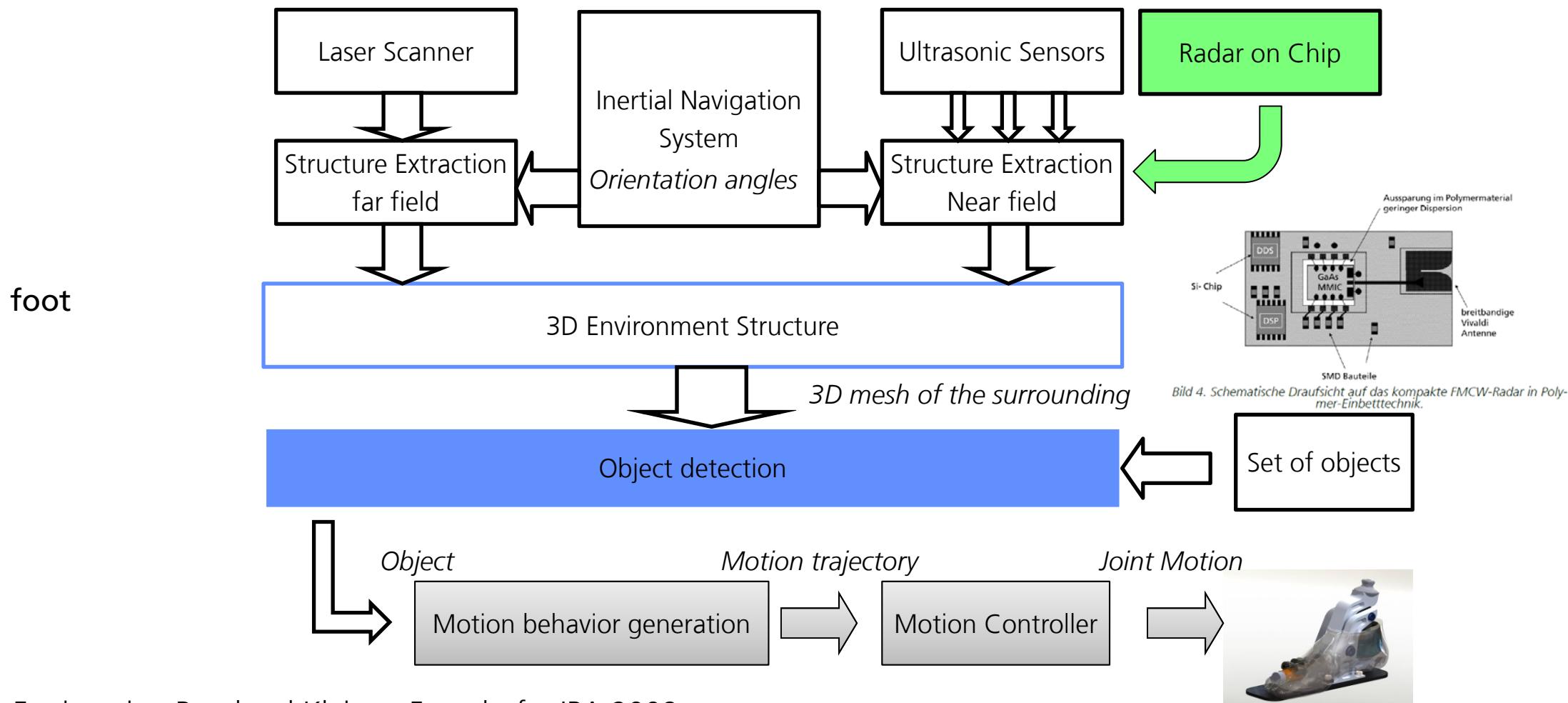
## Approach 1: Optic terrain detection for active terrain adaptation

- Mechatronic foot concepts show that controls based on kinematic/ kinetic sensory:
  - > cannot foresee obstacles
  - > need > 3 steps for state detection
- Idea is sensory foresight for automatic foot lift in prosthetic feet and drop feet
- Development of a mobile sensor system including motion detection and distance measurement for detection of ground area in upcoming sagital stance phase
- as a control input of an active foot, shoe or orthosis



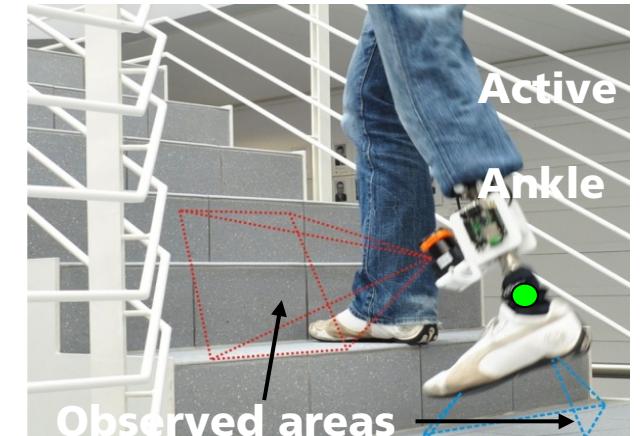
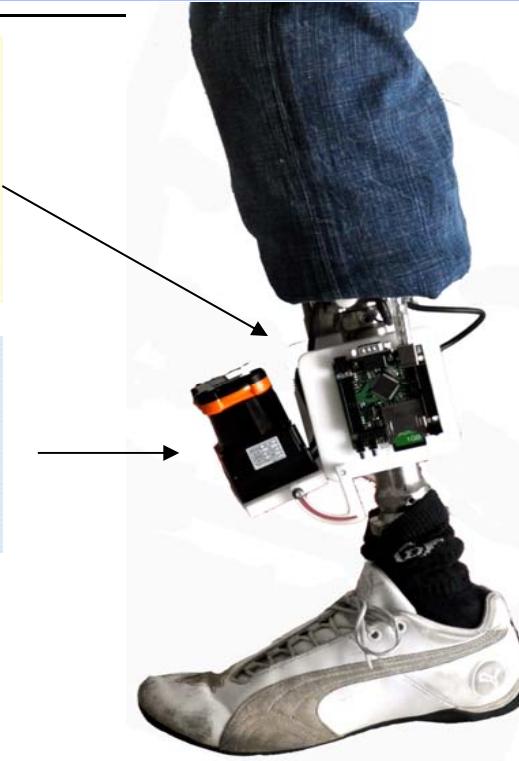
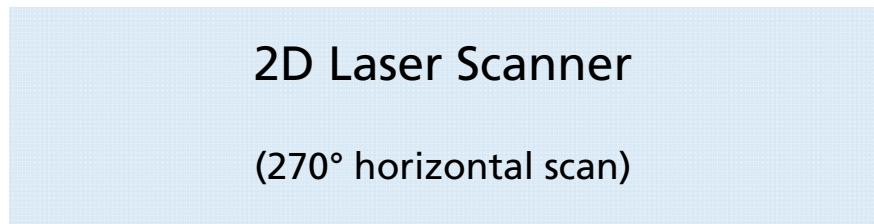
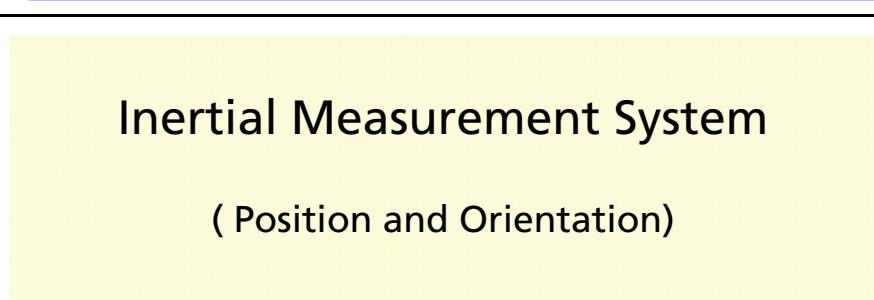
# Approach 1: Optic terrain detection for active terrain adaptation

## Control Architecture

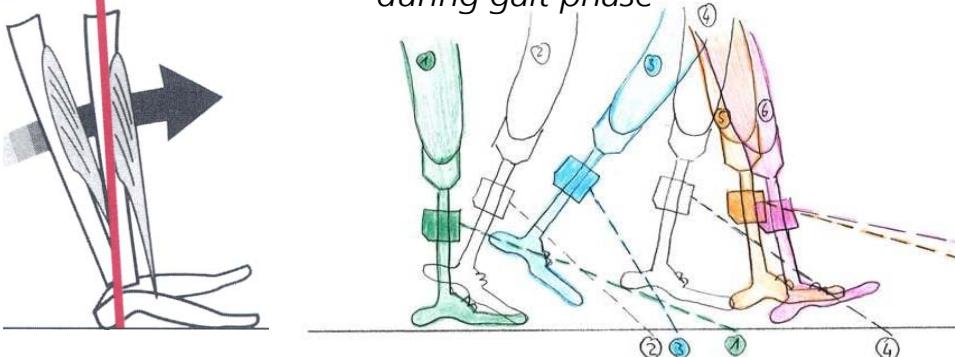


Engineering Bernhard Kleiner, Fraunhofer IPA 2009

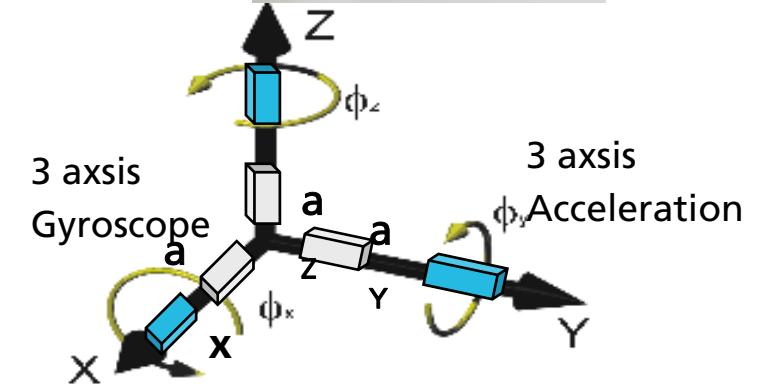
## Approach 1: Optic terrain detection for active terrain adaptation



*Inertial measurement unit  
by Fraunhofer IPA*

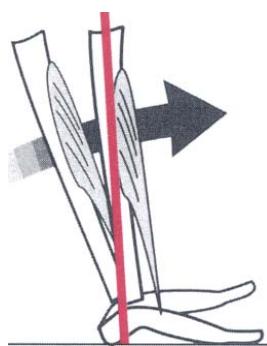


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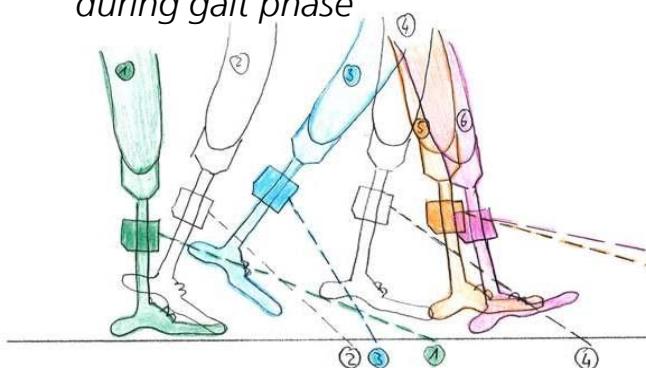


## Approach 1: Optic terrain detection for active terrain adaptation

- Sensor system moves continuously with the prosthesis
- Inertial motion measurement and gait phase detection
- Tibia rotates around center of pressure during stance
- Position estimation of the sensor on the tibia with motion model during stance and swing

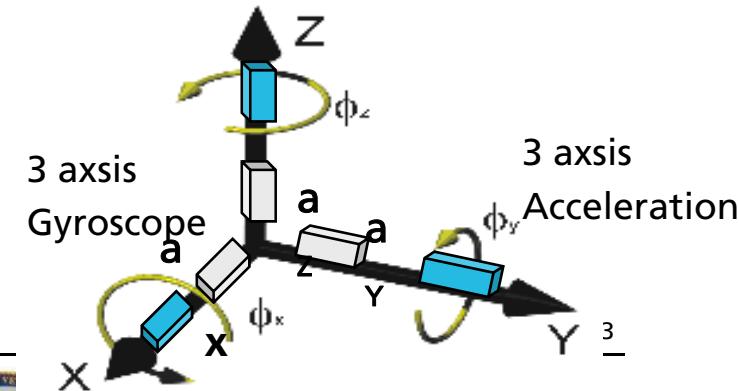


*Motion of the sensor unit  
during gait phase*



Engineering Bernhard Kleiner, Fraunhofer IPA 2009

*Inertial measurement unit  
by Fraunhofer IPA*



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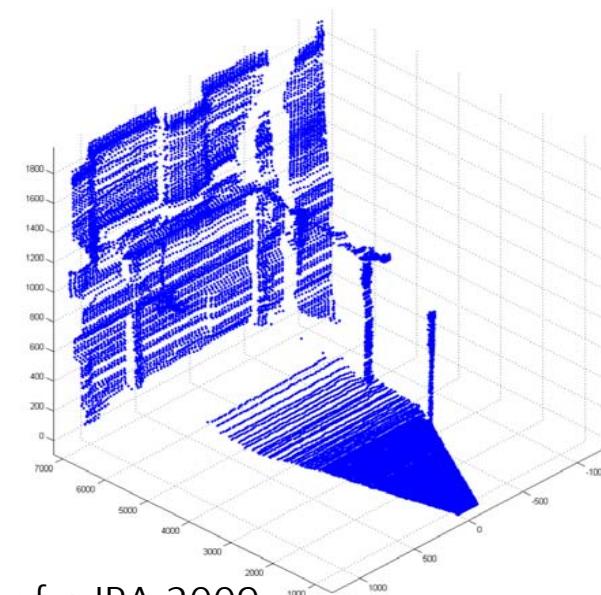
# Approach 1: Optic terrain detection for active terrain adaptation

## Measurements on ramps

Ramp in the Fraunhofer IPA gait lab

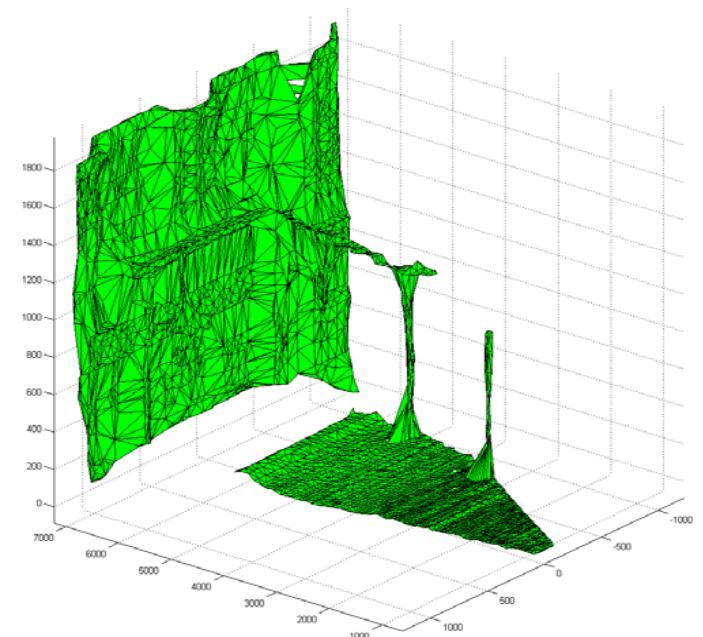


3D point cloud of the measured ramp



Engineering Bernhard Kleiner, Fraunhofer IPA 2009

Mesh of the measured ramp



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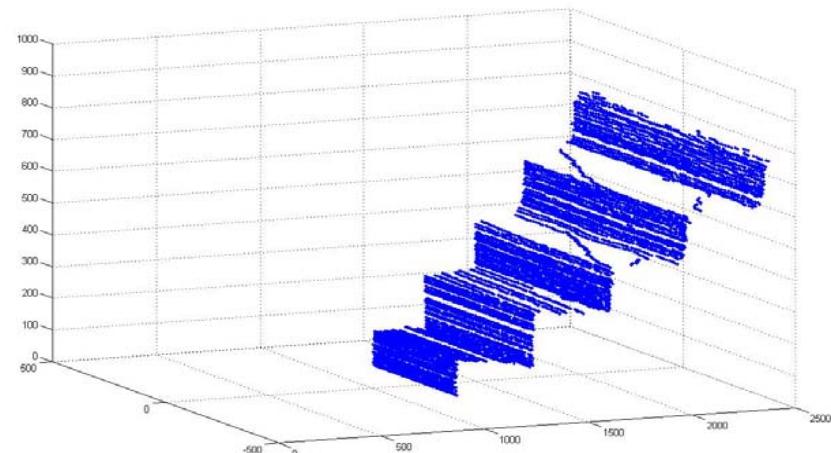
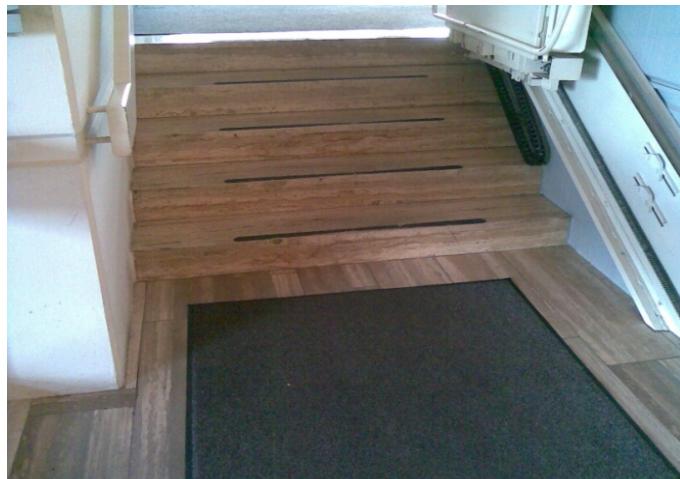
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## Approach 1: Optic terrain detection for active terrain adaptation

### Measurement of stairs

	<u>Real</u>	<u>Measured</u>
■ Distance to stairs:	1,2 m	1,2 m
■ Height of a stair:	15 cm	14,9 cm
■ Depth of a stair:	30 cm	29,9 cm



Engineering Bernhard Kleiner, Fraunhofer IPA 2009



Pylon mounted  
laser concept



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Approach 1: Optic terrain detection for active terrain adaptation

Approach 2: Passive terrain detection for passive terrain adaptation

Approach 3: User foot control for active terrain adaptation



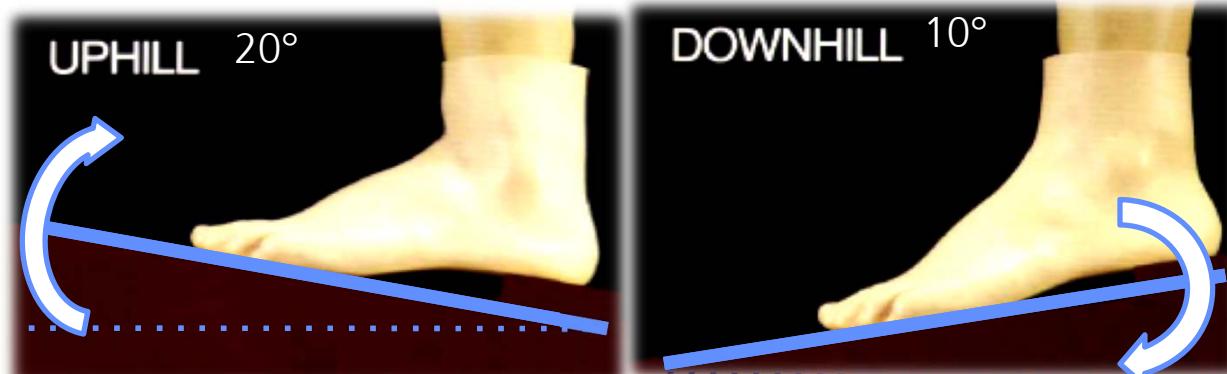
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## Approach 2: Passive terrain detection for passive terrain adaptation

Basic idea:

mechanical detection of vertical foot load in real time  
for  
passive hydraulic adaptation to sagittal terrain inclination



Mauch Ankle Product Catalogue Fotos, 1980)

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## Approach 2: Passive terrain detection for passive terrain adaptation

### The Story Behind



Dudley Childress



Andrew Hansen



Urs Schneider

**June 2009:**

Dudley Childress proposed to Andrew Hansen and Urs Schneider to revise the Mauch ankle

*"Patients liked the terrain-adaptive behavior of this foot. Leakage problems led to its withdrawal from the market in the early 80ties"*

**Future Plan:**

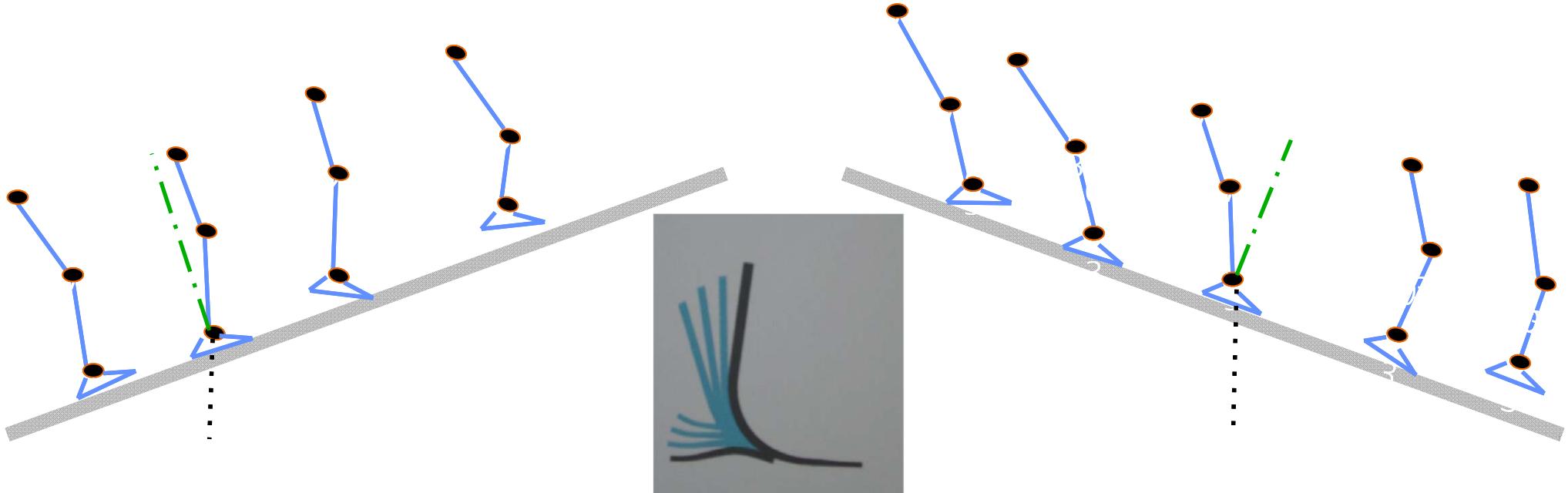
Via a master thesis at NUPAC (Chicago) we wanted to analyze the Mauch ankle technology properly before approaching a revision with modern hydraulics knowhow

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## Approach 2: Passive terrain detection for passive terrain adaptation

- Falling on your back or your nose, you may choose
- Missing adaptation of vertical shank on inclined ground
- Adaptation meaning late stance torque not just increased range of motion
- Side effect: heel height adaptation



## Approach 2: Passive terrain detection for passive terrain adaptation



Hans A. Mauch

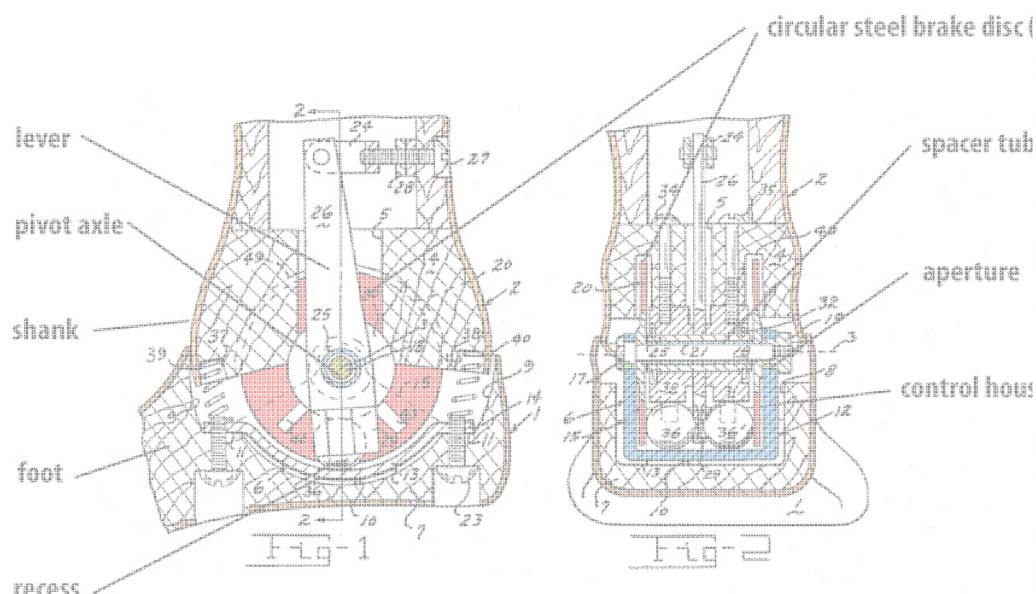
### The Mauch Ankle Patent drawings

#### Mechanical approach

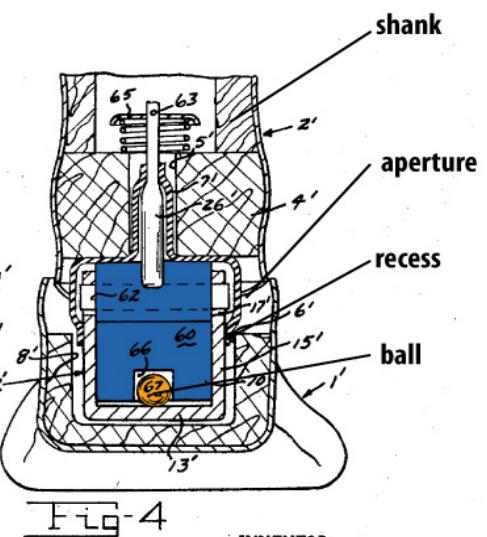
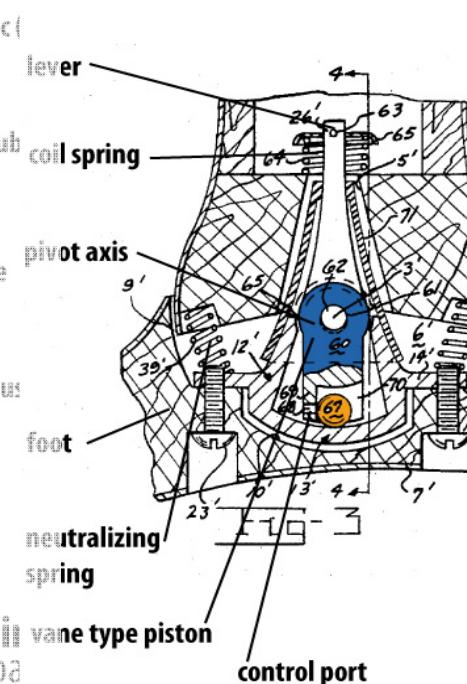
- Disc brake
- Blocked by 2 balls

#### Hydraulic approach

- Piston forms 2 hydraulic chambers
- Control channel blocked by ball



Mauch Ankle patent claim vane type piston  
mechanical approach



Mauch Ankle patent claims  
hydraulic approach



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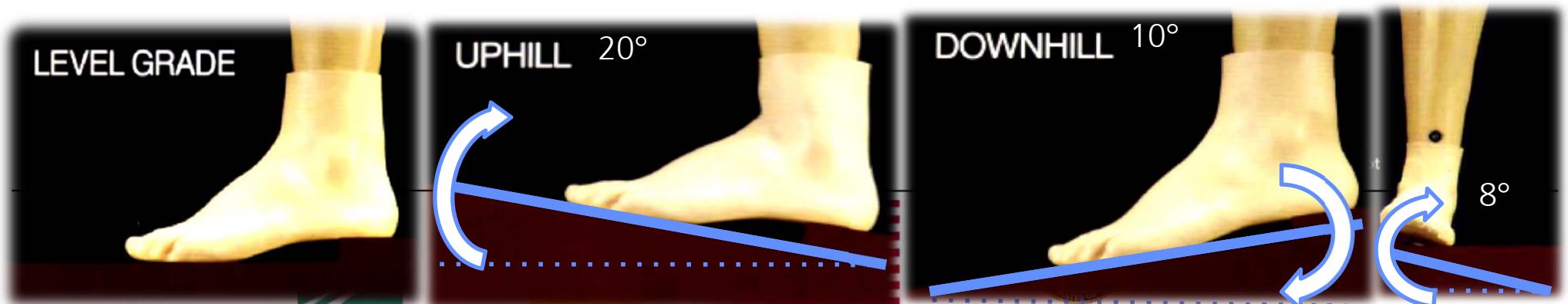
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## Approach 2: Passive terrain detection for passive terrain adaptation

### The Mauch Ankle

- Adaption to shoe heel height
- Adaption to different terrain

- Inclination:  $20^\circ$
- Declination:  $10^\circ$
- Inversion:  $8^\circ$
- Eversion:  $0^\circ$  (restricted)



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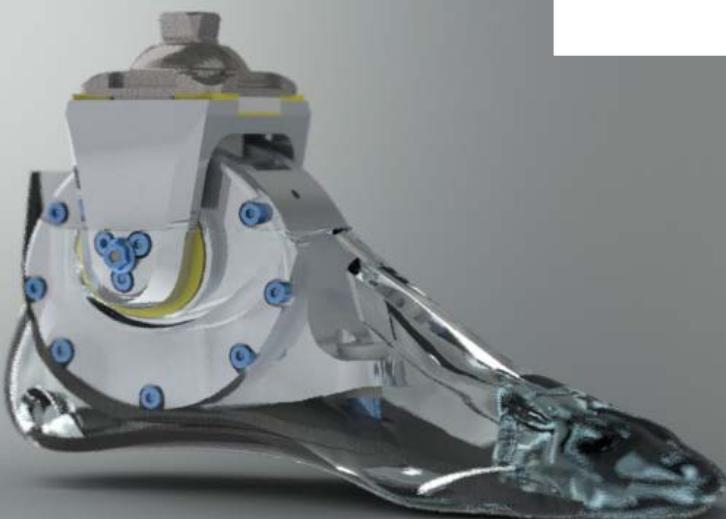
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## Approach 2: Passive terrain detection for passive terrain adaptation

### Early functional prototype - 2010



- **Build height:** 145 mm
- **Weight:** 1.24 kg
- **Foot size:** 27

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Engineering Felix Starker



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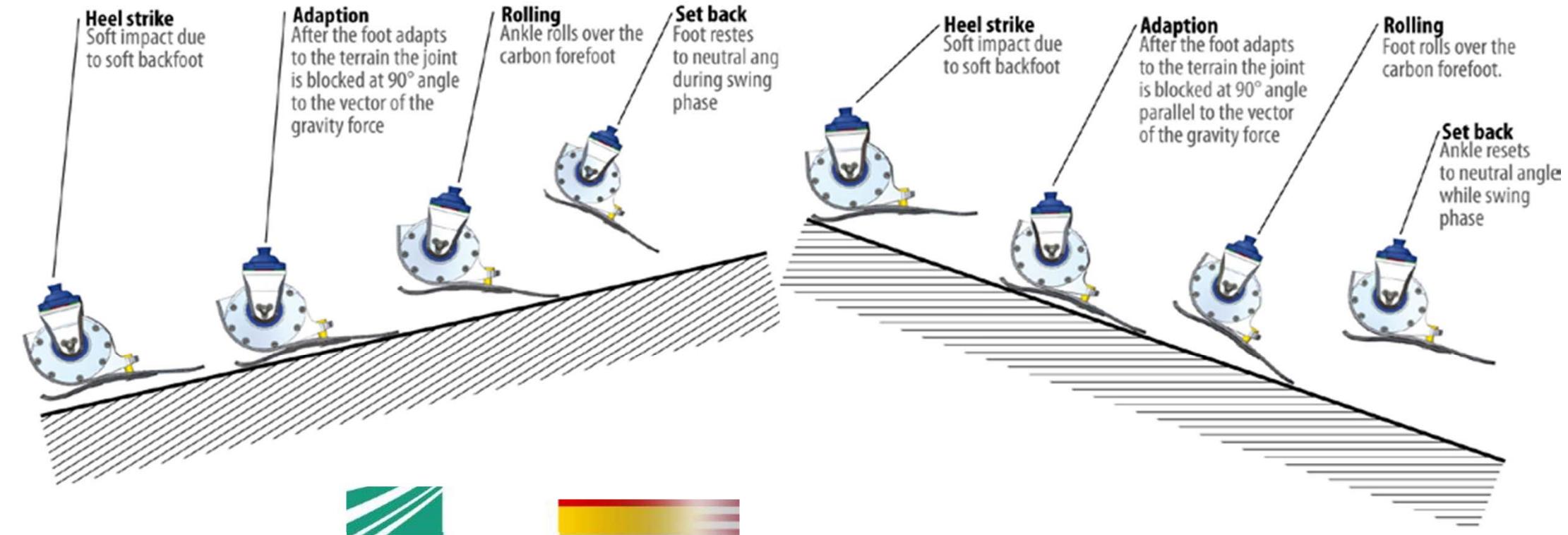
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## Approach 2: Passive terrain detection for passive terrain adaptation

### Adaption to uneven terrain

**20° inclination**

**20° declination**



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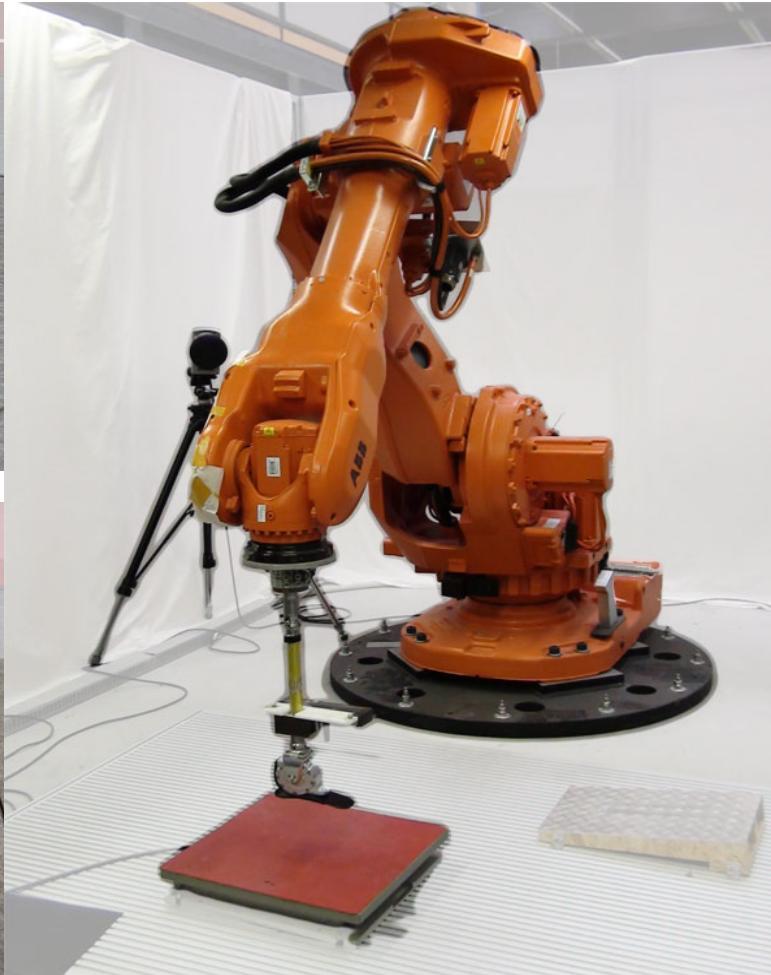


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## Approach 2: Passive terrain detection for passive terrain adaptation

### Early functional prototype – 2010 Evaluation

**Revised Mauch Ankle**  
The Prototype



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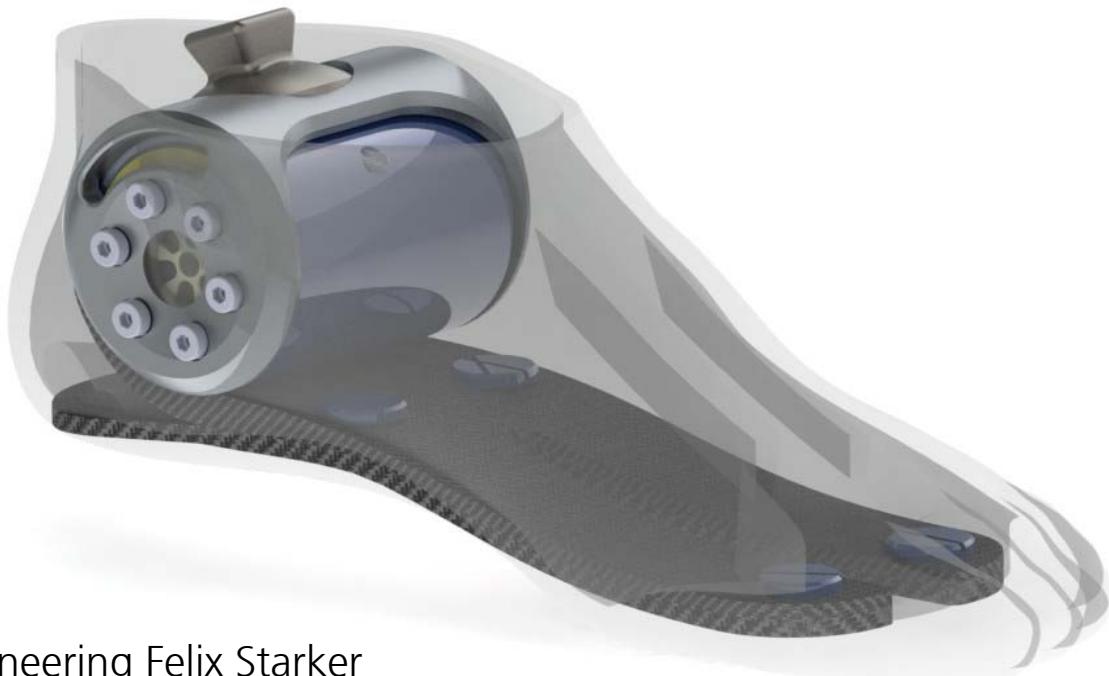
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## Approach 2: Passive terrain detection for passive terrain adaptation

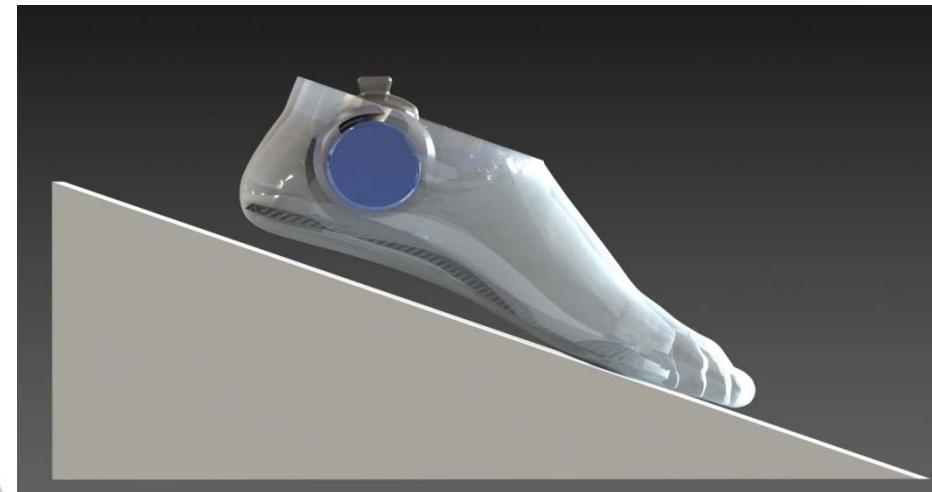
### Prototype 2011



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Planned Pre-Clinical Tests Andrew Hansen

- **Build height:** ~ 100 mm
- **Weight:** ~ 600 g
- **Foot size:** 27



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Approach 1: Optic terrain detection for active terrain adaptation

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## Approach 2: Passive terrain detection for passive terrain adaptation

Basic idea:

EMG and gait sensory based decision  
for user control of sagital ankle/ foot plate inclination



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## Approach 3: User foot control for active terrain adaptation

### Myo-electrics for lower extremity applications

- Current lower limb prostheses cannot be arbitrarily controlled by the user
- No biosignal based control feedback yet
- Muscle action based man machine interface
- Based on surface EMG array information
- combined with inertial and pressure sensory for gait phase interpretation

Engineering Harald von Rosenberg, Fraunhofer IPA

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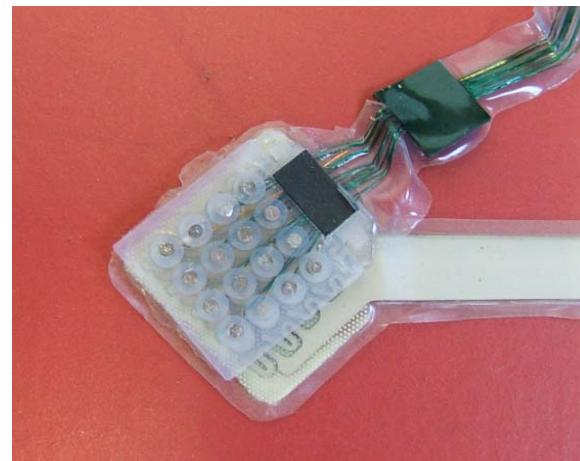
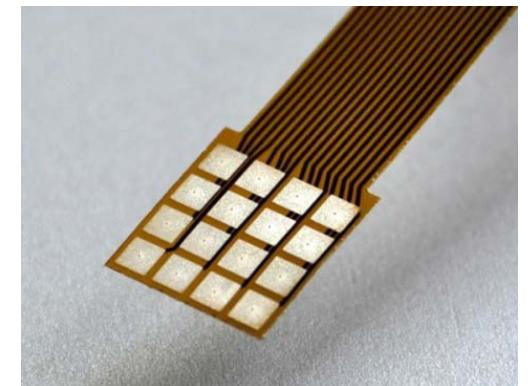
## Approach 3: User foot control for active terrain adaptation

### Sensory system I: version EMG and pressure

Various sensory arrays versions

4x4 dry EMG array

4x4 pressure sensory array behind the EMG Array



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## Approach 3: User foot control for active terrain adaptation

### Sensory system II: Inertial tracking and heel pressure for gait phase



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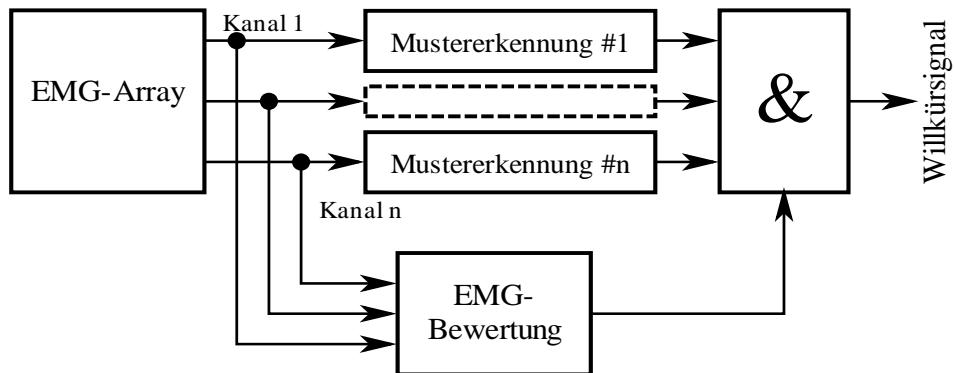


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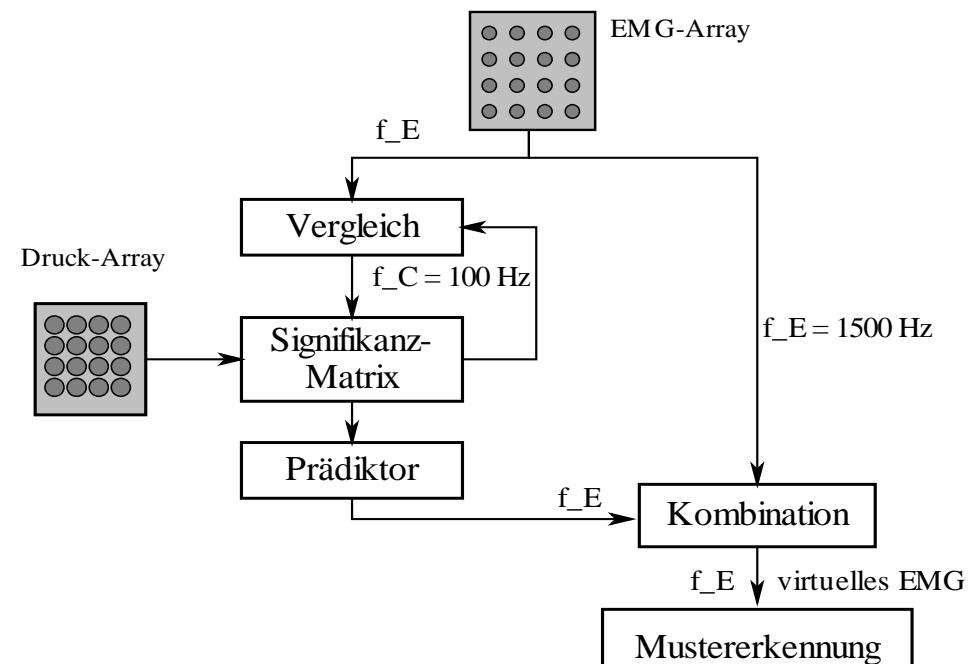
## Approach 3: User foot control for active terrain adaptation

## Signal Processing

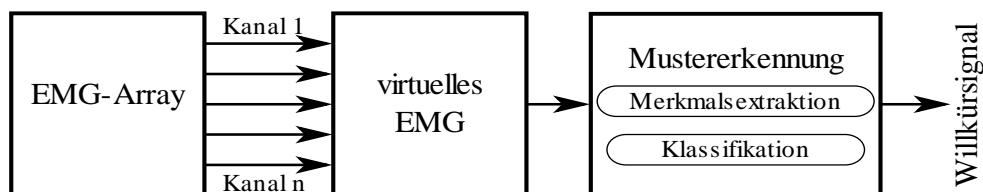
Classic multi sensory approach



Generation of the „Virtual EMG“



Concept „Virtual EMG“

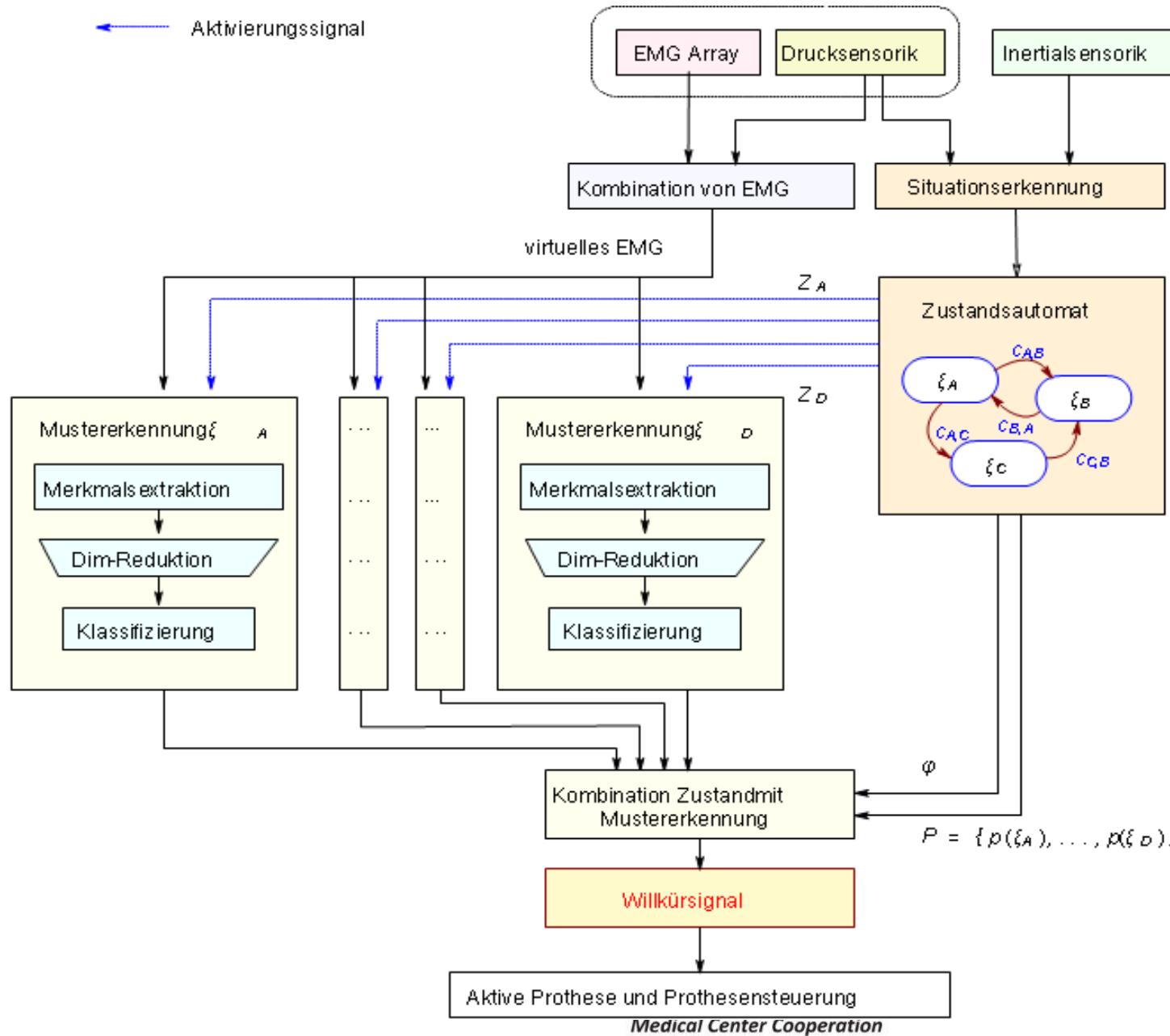


**Concept „Virtual EMG“**

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## Approach 3: User foot control for active terrain adaptation



Thank you very much for your attention.

## Literature

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