Interview for Advanced Robotic Systems
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Novel Robots for Gait and Arm Rehabilitation

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SMS Lab: 2 Affiliations, 2 Locations

ETH Zurich

Institute for Robotics
and Intelligent Systems

University Hospital Balgrist

Spinal Cord Injury Center

Disadvantage of Manual Training

For the Therapist

- Physically exhausting
- Ergonomically inconvenient

For the Patient

- Limited training duration
- Gait pattern not optimal

SCI Center, Balgrist University Hospital, Zurich

Challenges & Chances

What Are the Challenges in Rehabilitation?

1. Patients need intensive training to benefit from neuroplastic effects, even in the presence of pharmaceutical factors
2. Number of patients increases due to demographic shift
3. There is a shortage of personnel for rehabilitation and care

=> Chances: Application of Robotics

Robot-Aided Gait Training

Lokomat

Balgrist,
Hocoma AG

Current Robotic Platforms for Neurorehabilitation

Gait Rehabilitation "Robots"

Lopes

GaitTrainer

G-EO

Autoambulator

Lokomat

Haptic Walker

Hand/Arm Rehabilitation "Robots"

MIT Manus

Bi-Manu-Track

MGA

Haptic Master, GENTLE/s

Armeo Series
ARMin

ARMin History

4 Axes

6 Axes

ARMin I

ARMin II

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

2010

2011

2012

Pilot study I (n=10)

Pilot study II

Single case studies I,
chronic stroke (n=3)

Single case studies II,
chronic stroke (n=4)

ARMin History

4 Axes

ARMin I

6 Axes

ARMin II

7 Axes

ARMin III

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

2010

2011

2012

Pilot study I (n=10)

Pilot study II

Pilot study III

Single case studies I,
chronic stroke (n=3)

Single case studies II,
chronic stroke (n=4)

Controlled clinical trial,
chronic stroke (n=80)

ARMin III

Exoskeletal Robot with 7 Degrees of Freedom

ETH Zurich/Balgrist, Hocoma AG

Nef, Riener et al. 2006-2011

Multicenter Randomized Clinical Trial

Hypothesis

“Patient-responsive ADL-related **robotic training** with ARMin is **more effective than conventional therapy** with respect to **motor functional recovery** of the affected arm of chronic hemiparetic **stroke** patients.”

Multicenter Randomized Clinical Trial

Study Design

- Multicenter, randomized, controlled, clinical trial
- Four medical centers
- Total of 77 patients
- Patients with moderate to severe motor impairment of an upper limb (FMA 8 to 38) after stroke
- Chronic state (at least 6 months post-stroke)

Study Outcomes

Primary Outcome

- Fugl-Meyer Assessment (FMA), impairment based, upper arm portion (max. 66 points)

Secondary Outcomes

- Wolf Motor Function Test (WMFT)
 - time
 - function
- Questionnaires
 - Stroke Impact Scale (SIS)
 - Motor Activity Log (MAL)
- Modified Ashworth-Skala (mAS)
- ROM, joint torques measured by ARMin

Time Course

Therapy Session Modes

	Robot (ARMin)	Conventional (Control)
Minimum time	45 min	45 min
Therapy modes	Mobilisation (min. 10min)	Mobilisation
	Games (min. 10min)	Games
	ADL tasks (min. 10min)	ADL tasks
		«Others»

Change in FMA

73 Patients (38 ARMin, 35 Control)

Klamroth, ..., Riener, The Lancet Neurology, Dec. 2013

Change in FMA: Severe Cases

34 out of 73 Patients

Klamroth, ..., Riener, The Lancet Neurology, Dec. 2013

Conclusion from Clinical Study

- Patient-responsive ADL-related robotic training with **ARMin is more effective** than conventional therapy with respect to functional recovery.
- **Particularly patients with severe impairment benefit** from robotic therapy of the arm.
- Differences are **clinically questionable**.
- Were patients **“too chronic”**? Were robots stimulating too little and **supporting too much**?
- Future question: **Where are the responders?**

ARMin History

4 Axes

6 Axes

7 Axes

ARMin I

ARMin II

ARMin III

ARMin IV

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

2010

2011

2012

Pilot study I (n=10)

Pilot study II

Pilot study III

Pilot study IV
novel assessment
methods

Single case studies I,
chronic stroke (n=3)

Single case studies II,
chronic stroke (n=4)

Controlled clinical trial,
chronic stroke (n=80)

Technology Transfer
Armeo®Power

Nef, Riener et al. 2006-2011

ARMin History

ARMin III

ARMin IV

ChARMin

2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 ...

Pilot study III

Pilot study IV
novel assessment
methods

Controlled clinical trial,
chronic stroke (n=80)

Technology Transfer
Armeo®Power

MR-compatible robotics

ChARMin Setup

U. Keller, R. Riener & KiSpi Zurich

Human-Robot Interaction

Human-Robot Cooperation

Human

Machine

Interaction,
Cooperation

Human-Robot Cooperation

Key Features

- Intensive

Human-Robot Cooperation

Key Features

- Intensive
- Guided?

Human-Robot Cooperation

Key Features

- Intensive
- Cooperative
- **Transparent**

Mechanical Interaction

Path Control

- Robot behaves **assistive**, **corrective** or **transparent**, when needed
- Free timing for patient
- Support patient, but do not restrict patient

Path Control Increases Participation

Heart Rate

Muscle Activity

11 incomplete SCI subjects

Path Control Enhances Variability

“Repetition without Repetition” (Bernstein)

Position Control

Path Control

Motivation During Gait Training

Conventional Training

Can be monotonous and boring

Gait Training & Virtual Reality

Engagement Increases Neuroplasticity

```
graph LR; A([Physical activity]) --> B([Neuro-plastic effects])
```

Physical activity

Neuro-
plastic effects

Engagement Increases Neuroplasticity

Human-Robot Cooperation

Key Features

- Intensive
- Cooperative
- Transparent
- Engaging
- Rewarding

Human-Robot Cooperation

Key Features

- Intensive
- Cooperative
- Transparent
- Engaging
- Rewarding
- Task-specific

Activities of Daily Living Training

Chronic Stroke Patient (FMA=26)

Guidali, Riener et al., MBEC 2011

Activities of Daily Living Training

Social Reward: Tele-Rehabilitation

Player RED
Uniklinik Balgrist

Player BLUE
ETH Zurich

Social Reward: Collaborative Gaming

Outlook & Vision

Problem: Averaging

FMA ARMin Group

FMA Control Group

Challenge: Find the Responders

Human Subjects

Technical Features

Conclusion

Conclusion

Robots should Cooperate and Motivate

- Current robotic approaches often ignore patient activity
- Therapeutic outcome can be increased, when patient is active
- Therefore, future robots should be “patient-cooperative” enhancing patient activity and engagement/reward

Outlook

- Implement **novel technical features** (e.g. provide high intensity treatment, reward-driven therapy)
- Adjust the technology and therapy to **find the responders**
- Prove effectiveness in **clinical studies**

CYBATHLON

CHAMPIONSHIP FOR
ROBOT-ASSISTED PARATHLETES

Six Different Disciplines

General Criteria

- Challenge requires actuated devices
- Course contains tasks of daily life

Objectives of the Cybathlon

The Cybathlon will promote the development of assistive systems for people with disabilities to be suitable for daily use. This should remove barriers between general public, the users and the developers.