

# Continuum/Flexible, Miniaturized Robots for Medical Applications

M. Taha Chikhaoui

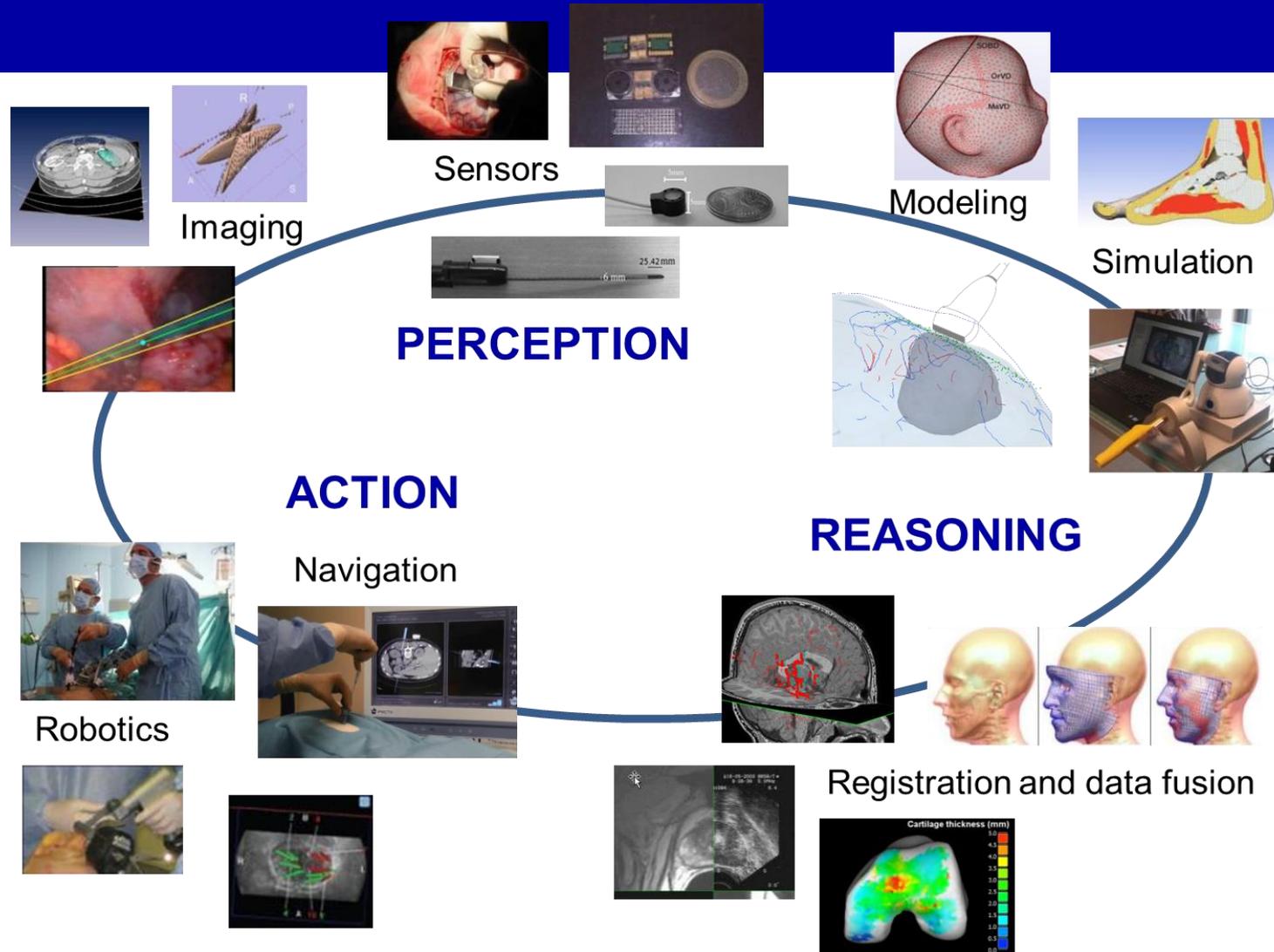
Research Scientist (Chargé de Recherche), CNRS  
Computer-Assisted Medical Interventions Team  
TIMC Laboratory



[Taha.Chikhaoui@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr](mailto:Taha.Chikhaoui@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr)



## Overview



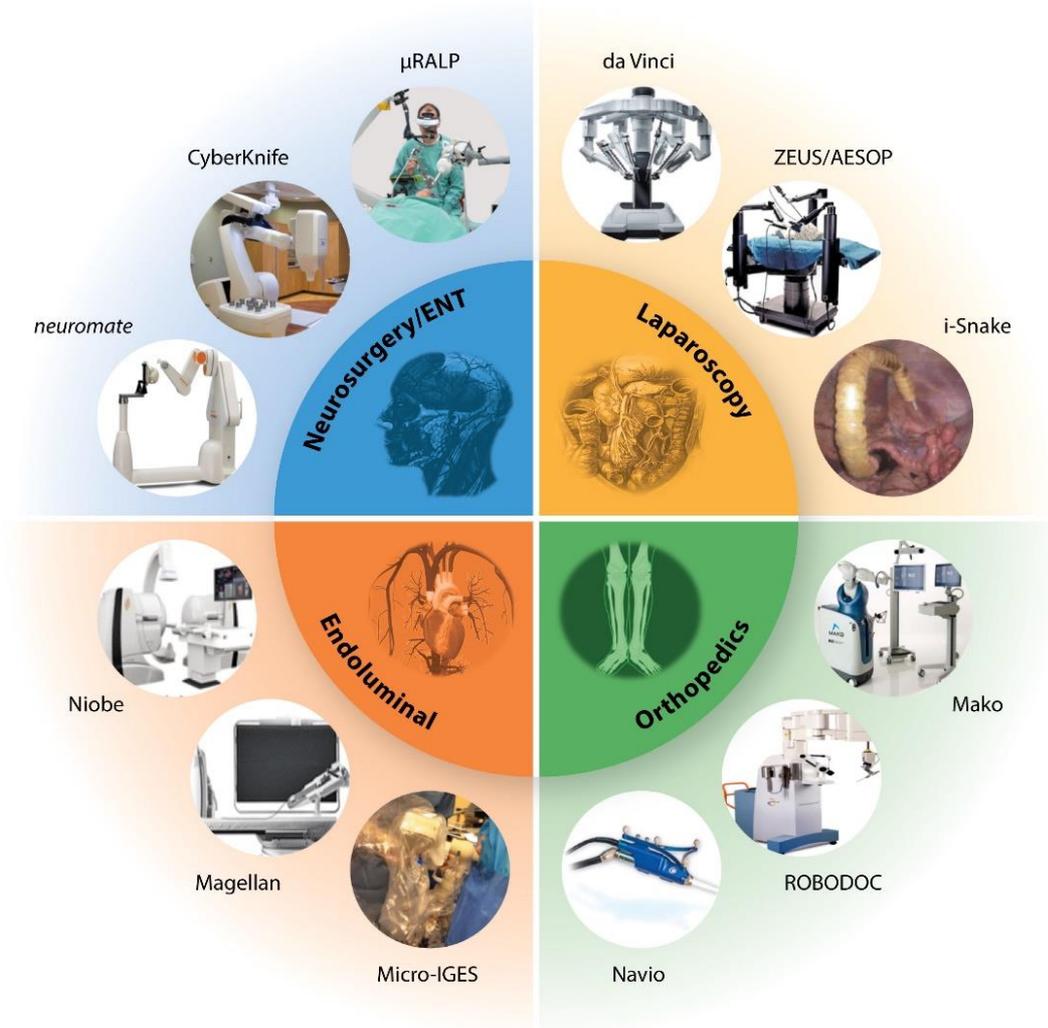
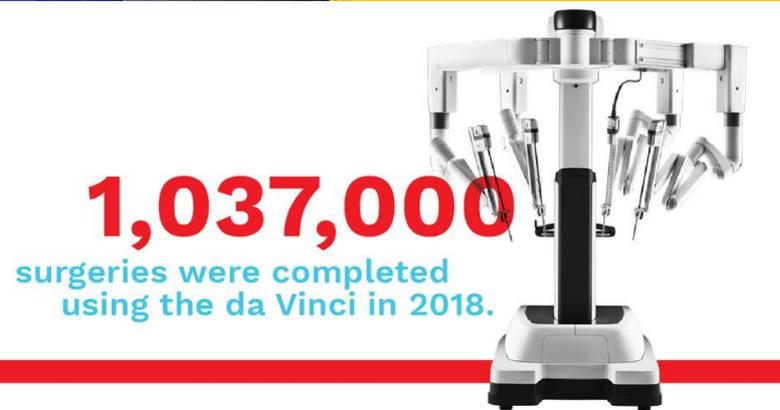
# Medical Robotics



## Overview



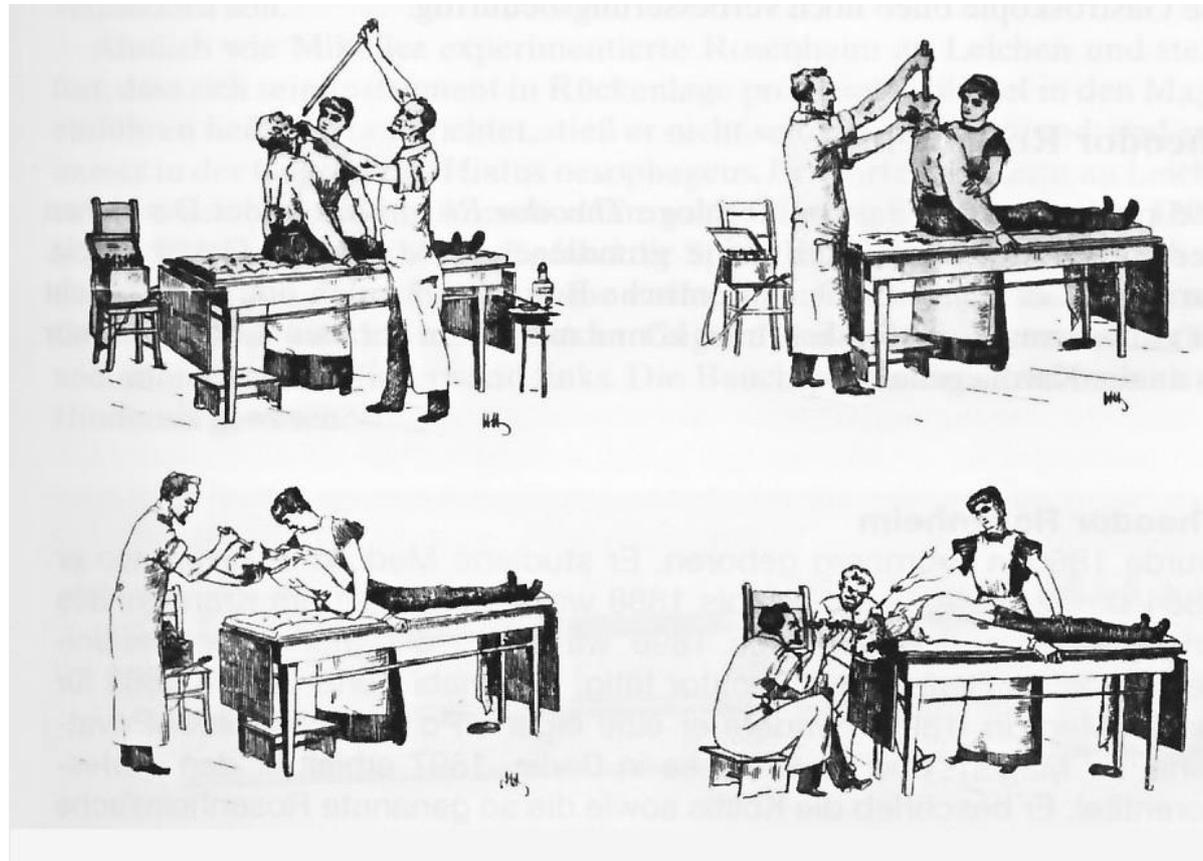
CAGR: Compound Annual Growth Rate



Troccaz J, et al. 2019. Annu. Rev. Biomed. Eng. 21:193-218

## Endoscopy as a major change

- From rigid endoscopes ... to actuated, flexible devices ... to robots

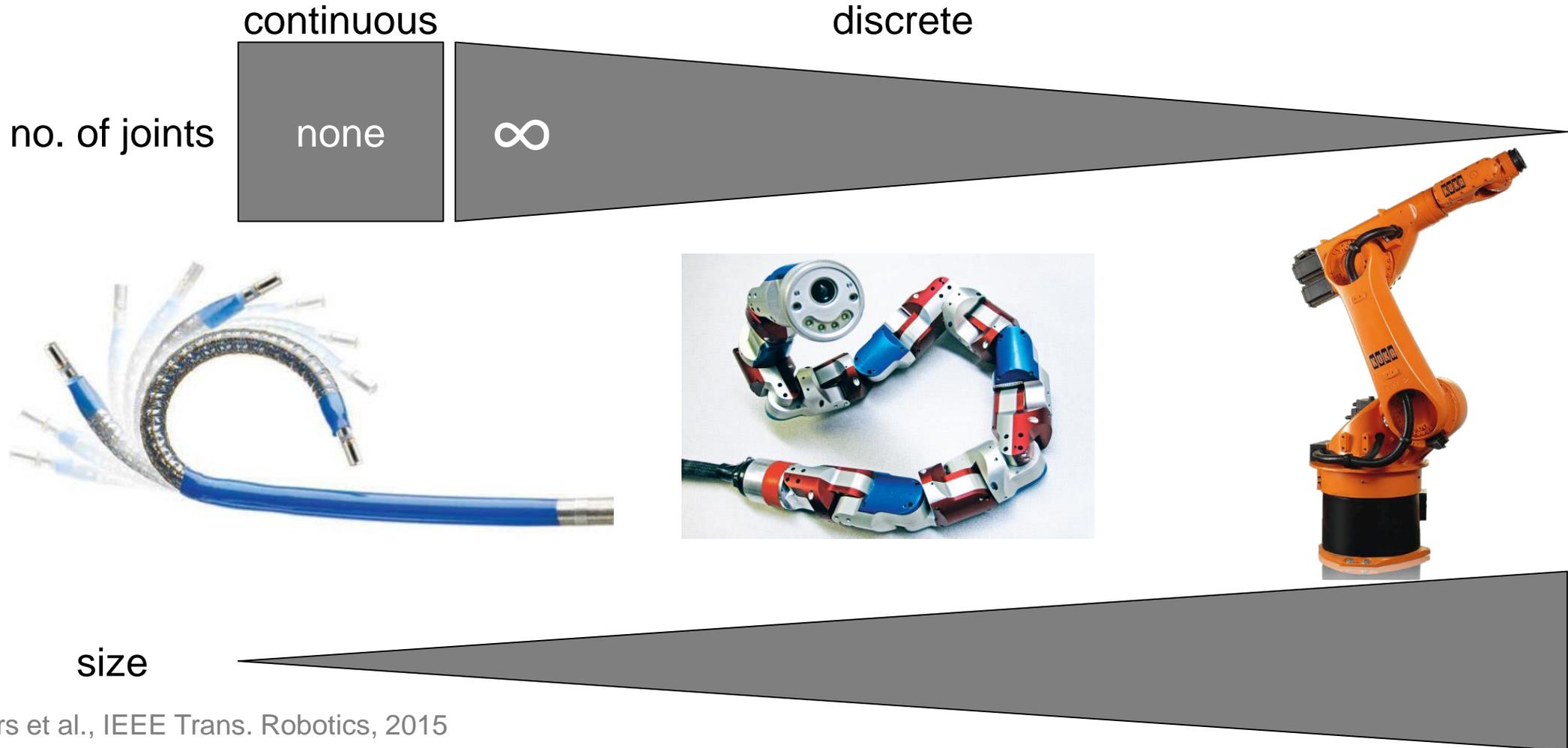


Dimensions  
Material  
Actuation  
Integration

Esophagoscopy – A. Kussmaul, 1868

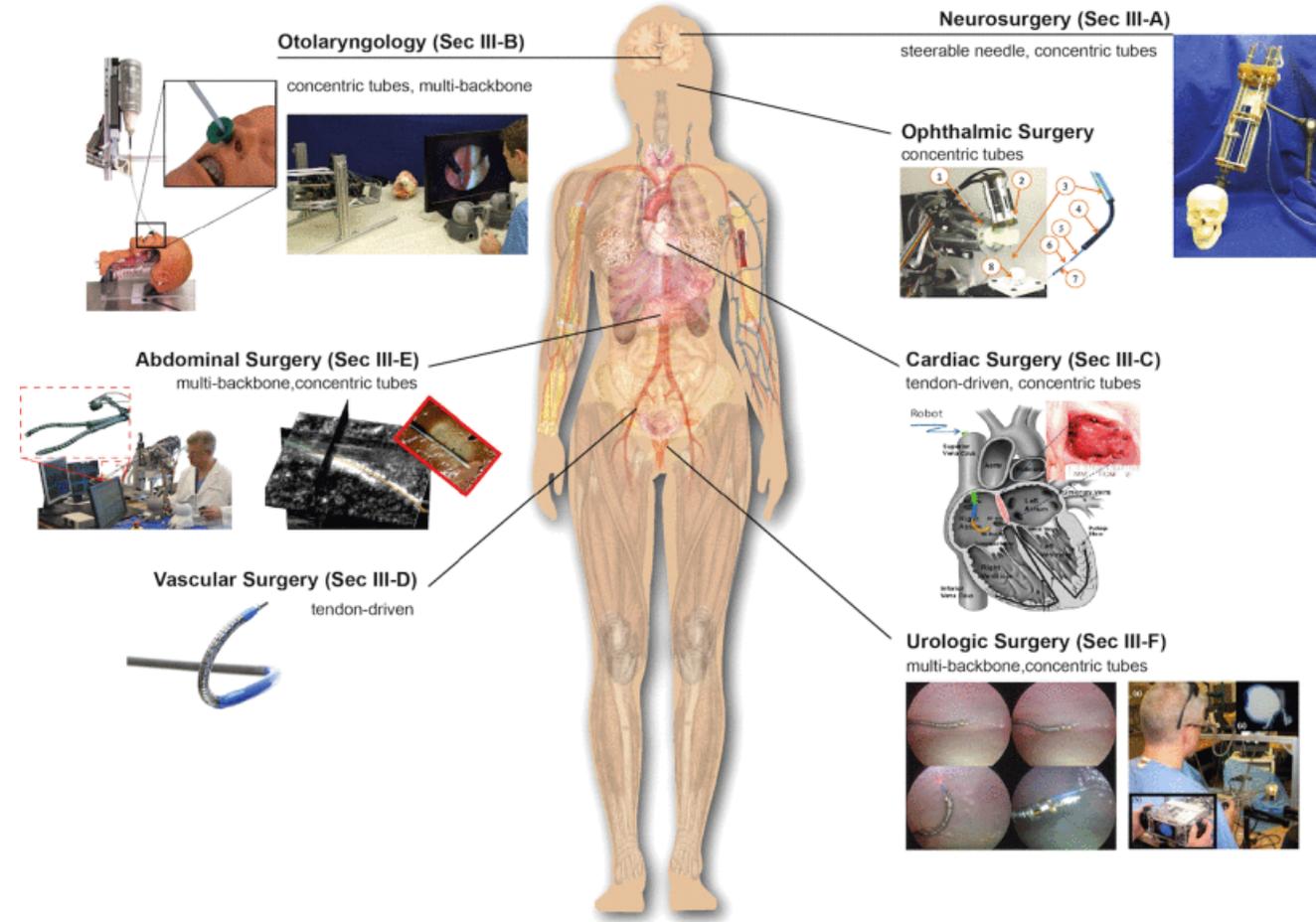
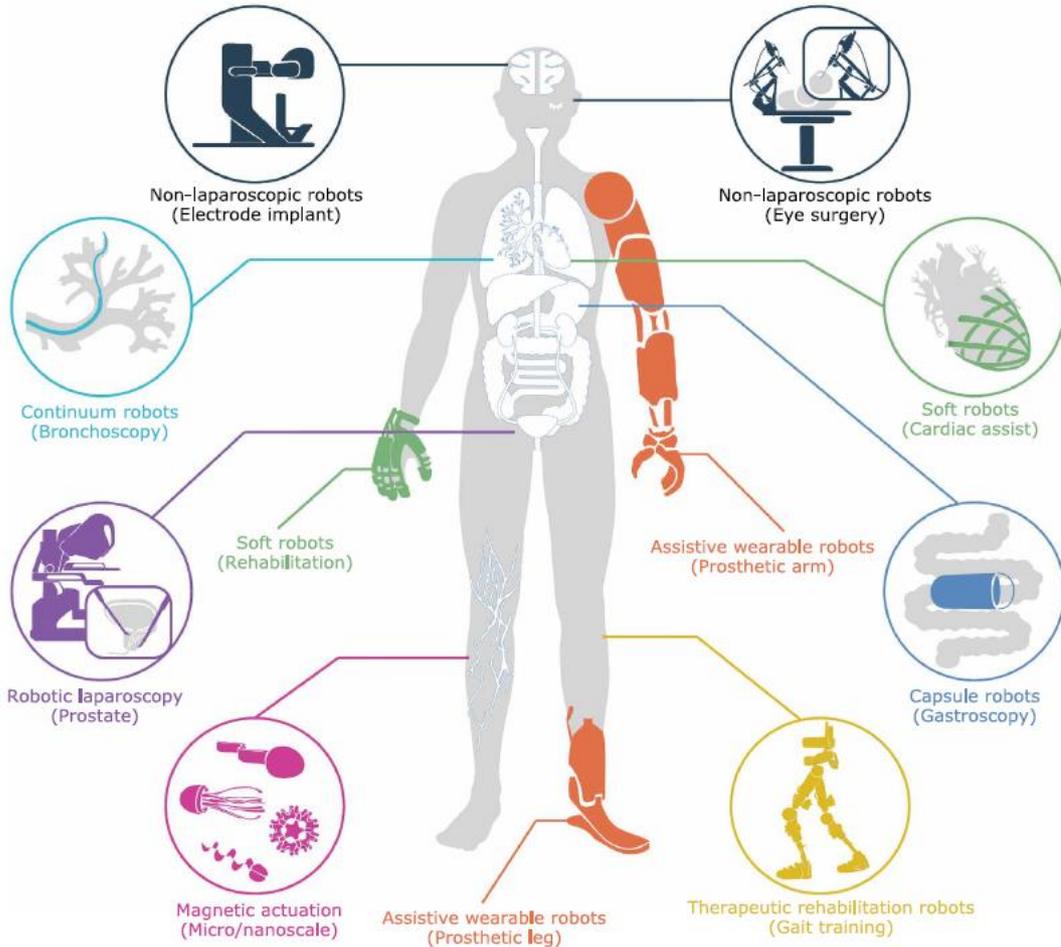
# From Rigid to Continuum Robotics

## Different paradigm



Burgner-Kahrs et al., IEEE Trans. Robotics, 2015

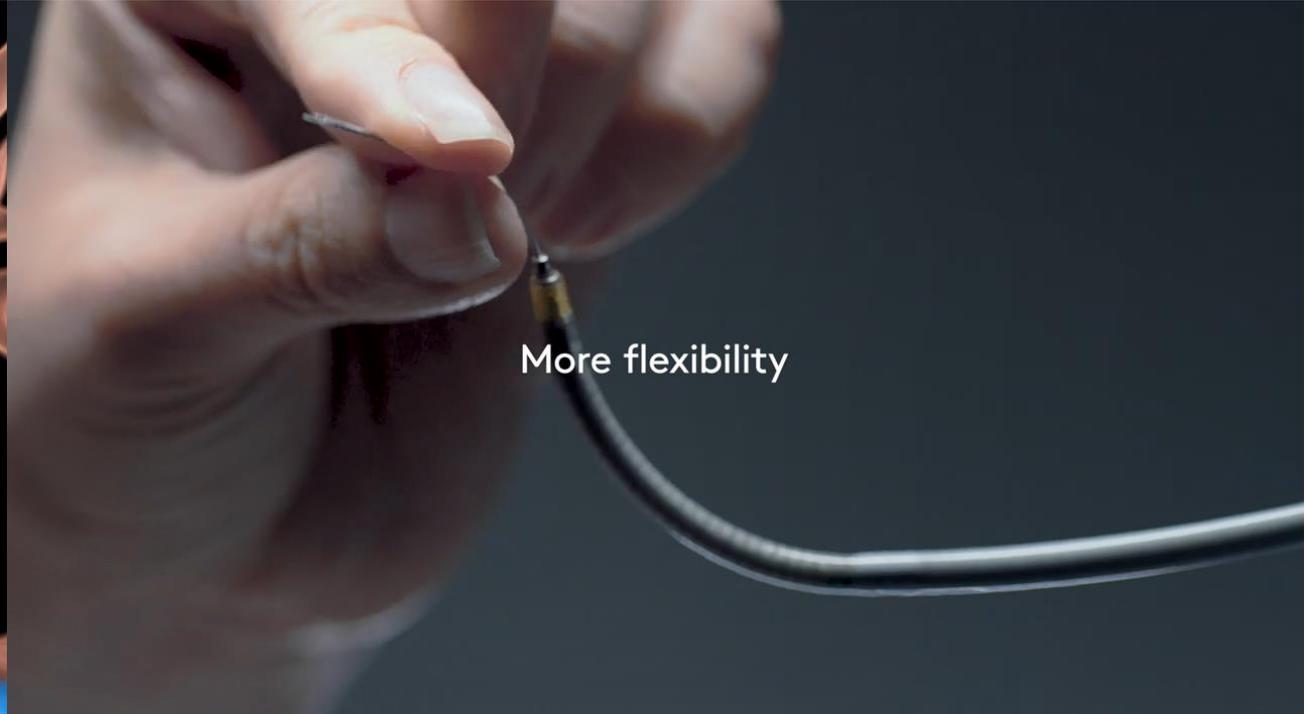
## Applications



Dupont et al., Science Robotics, 2021

Burgner-Kahrs et al., IEEE Trans. Robotics, 2015

## Continuum Medical Robots

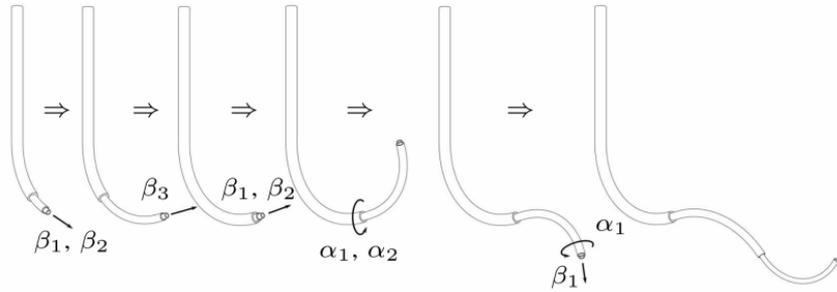


Auris Health, Monarch  
FDA clearance 2018  
Ø 4.2 mm

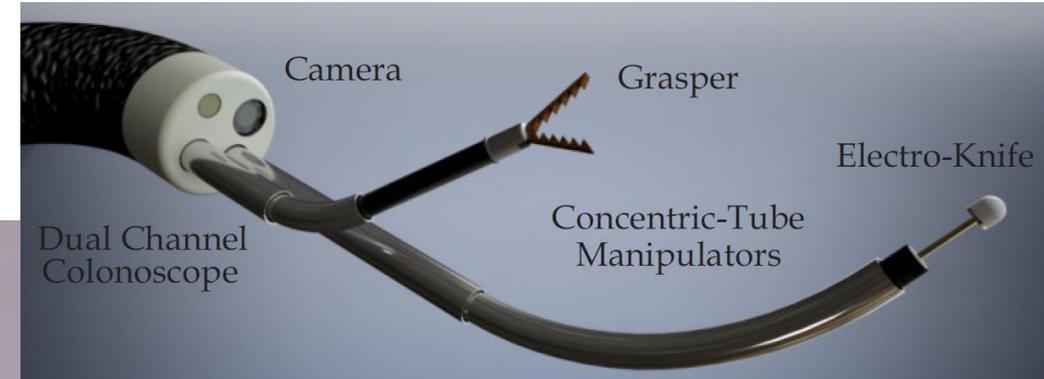
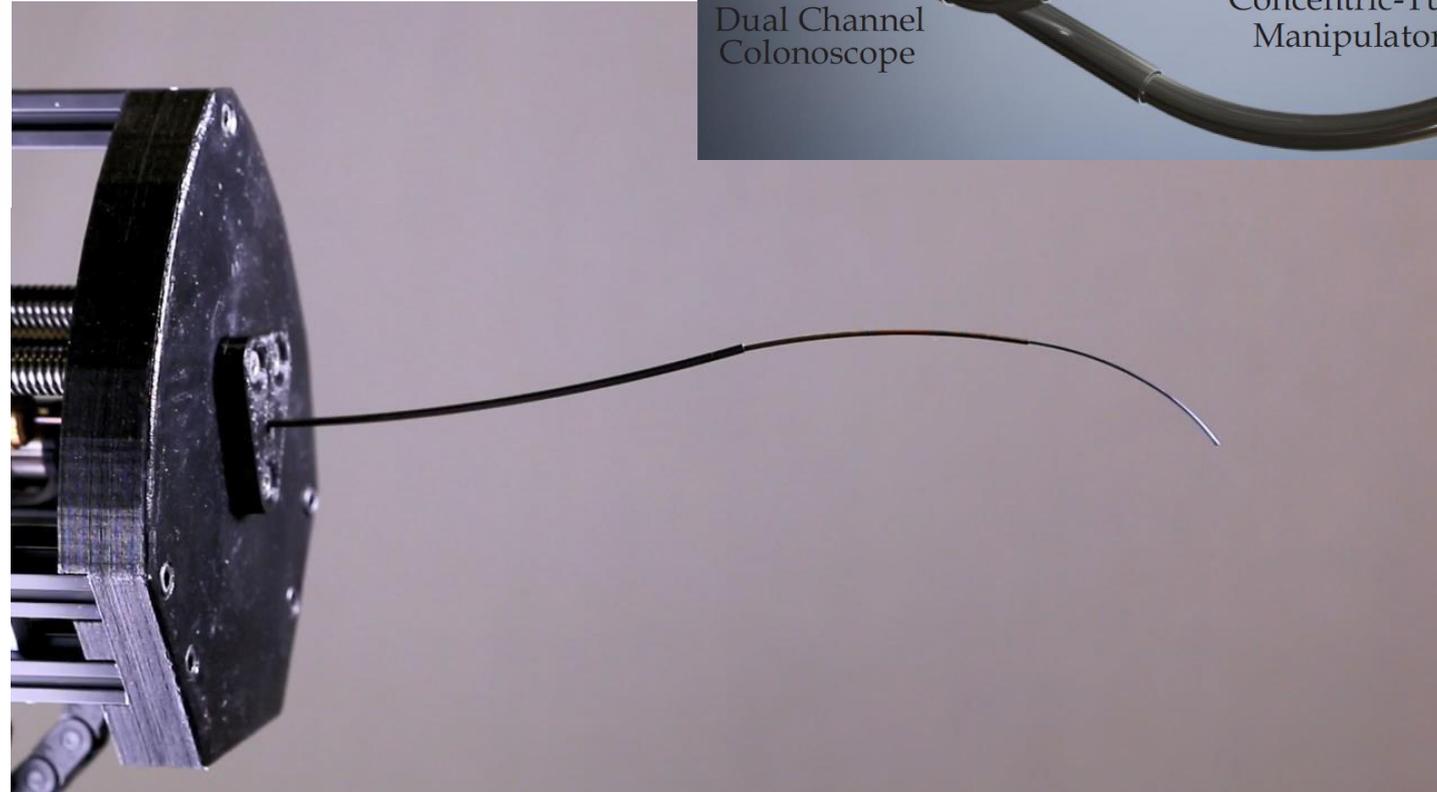
Intuitive Surgical, Ion  
FDA clearance 2019  
Ø 3.5 mm

# Some Research Prototypes

## Concentric Tube Continuum Robots



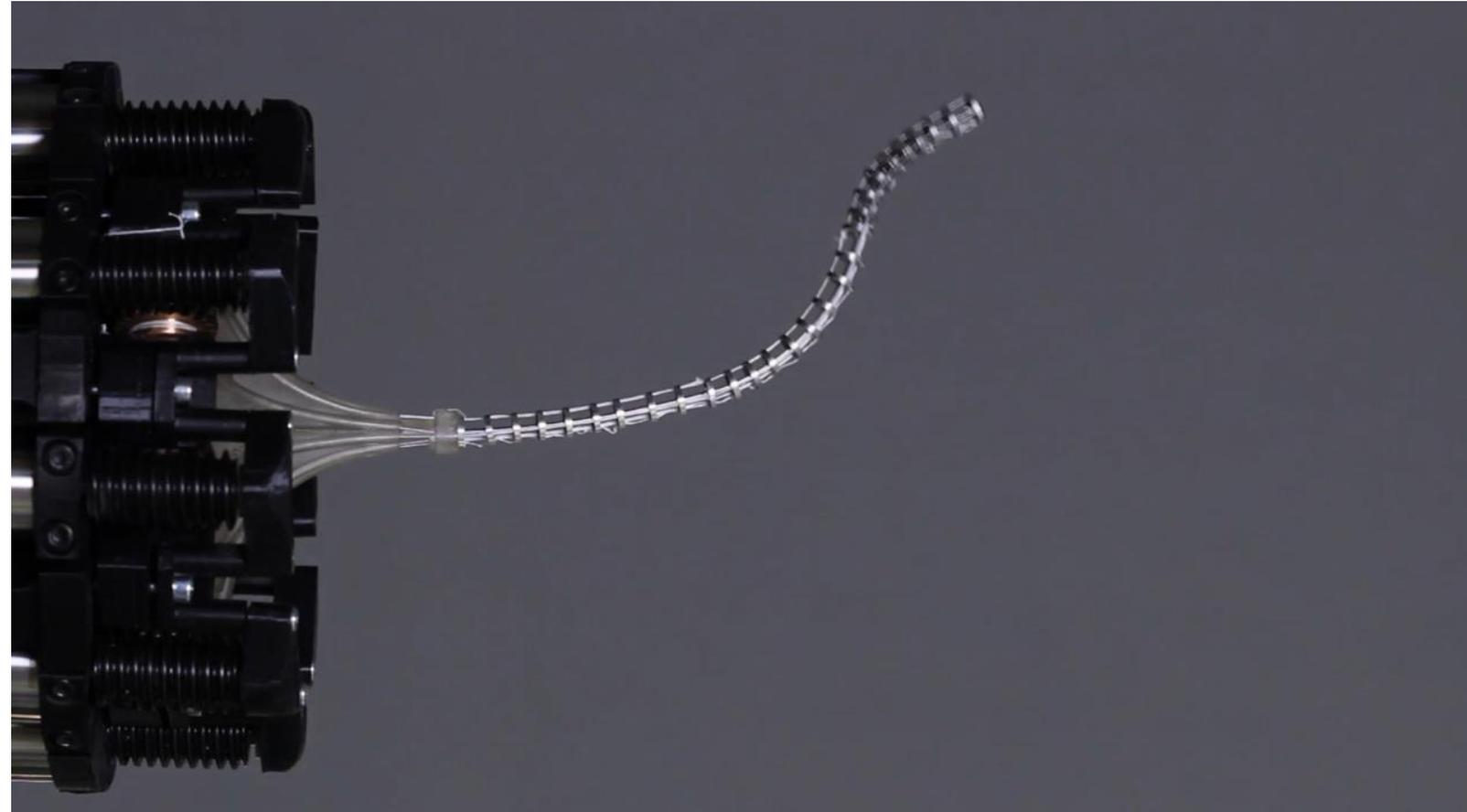
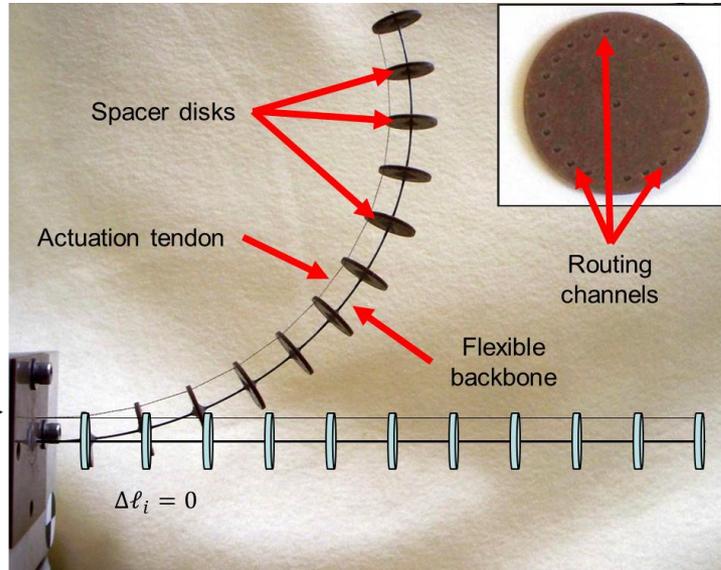
J. Burgner-Kahrs  
U. of Toronto  
Ø 3.2 mm



C. Rucker  
U. of Tennessee

# Some Research Prototypes

## Tendon-Actuated Continuum Robots

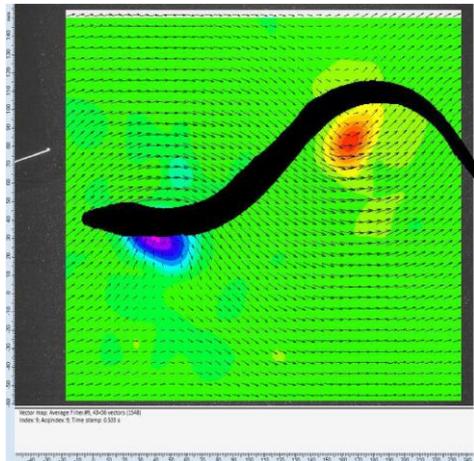


J. Burgner-Kahrs  
U. of Toronto  
Ø 8 mm

# Some Research Prototypes

## Continuum Robotics at TIMC

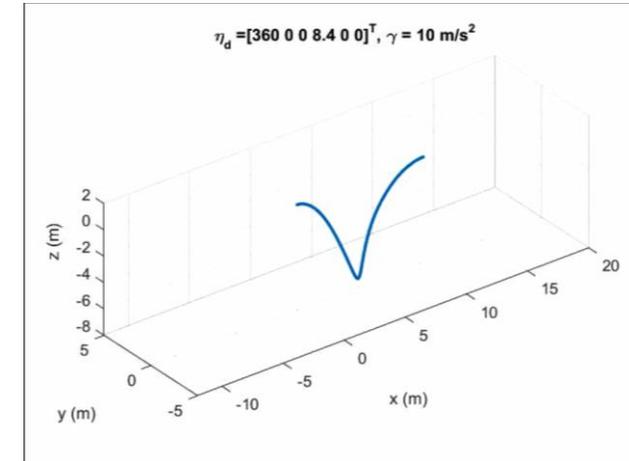
- Tendon-Actuated Continuum Robots
  - Modeling of slender robots for control – ANR project COSSEROOTS



F. Candelier, U. Aix-Marseille



Ch. Duriez, INRIA Lille

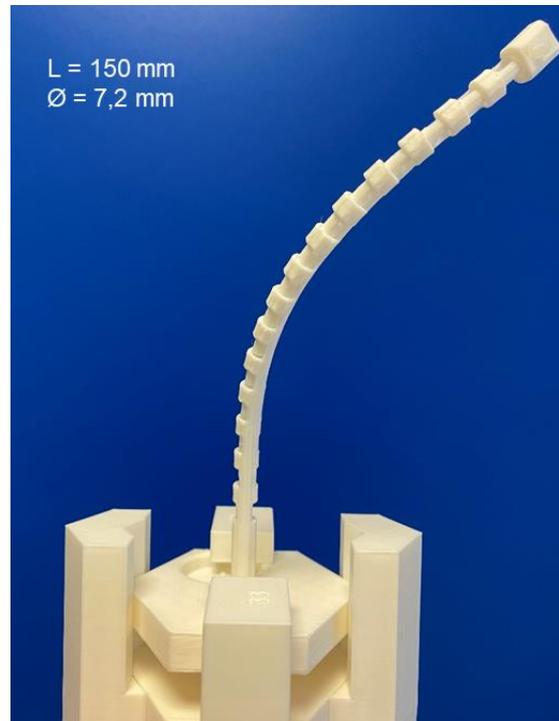
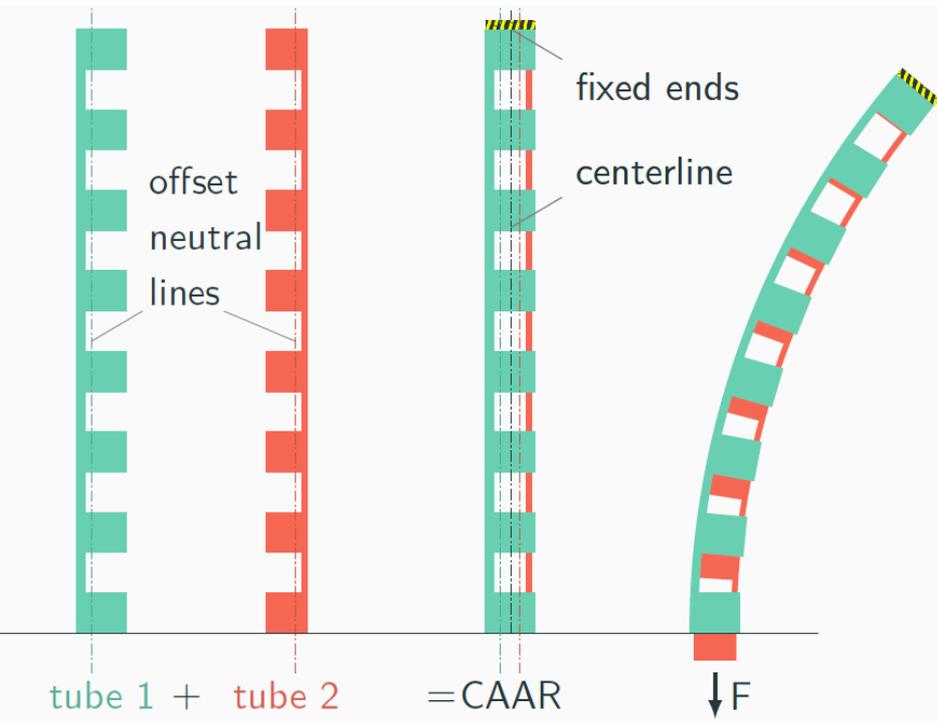


F. Boyer, LS2N, Nantes

# Some Research Prototypes

## Continuum Robotics at TIMC

- Concentric Agonist-Antagonist Continuum Robots
  - Modeling and design of innovative continuum robots – with ICube (Strasbourg)

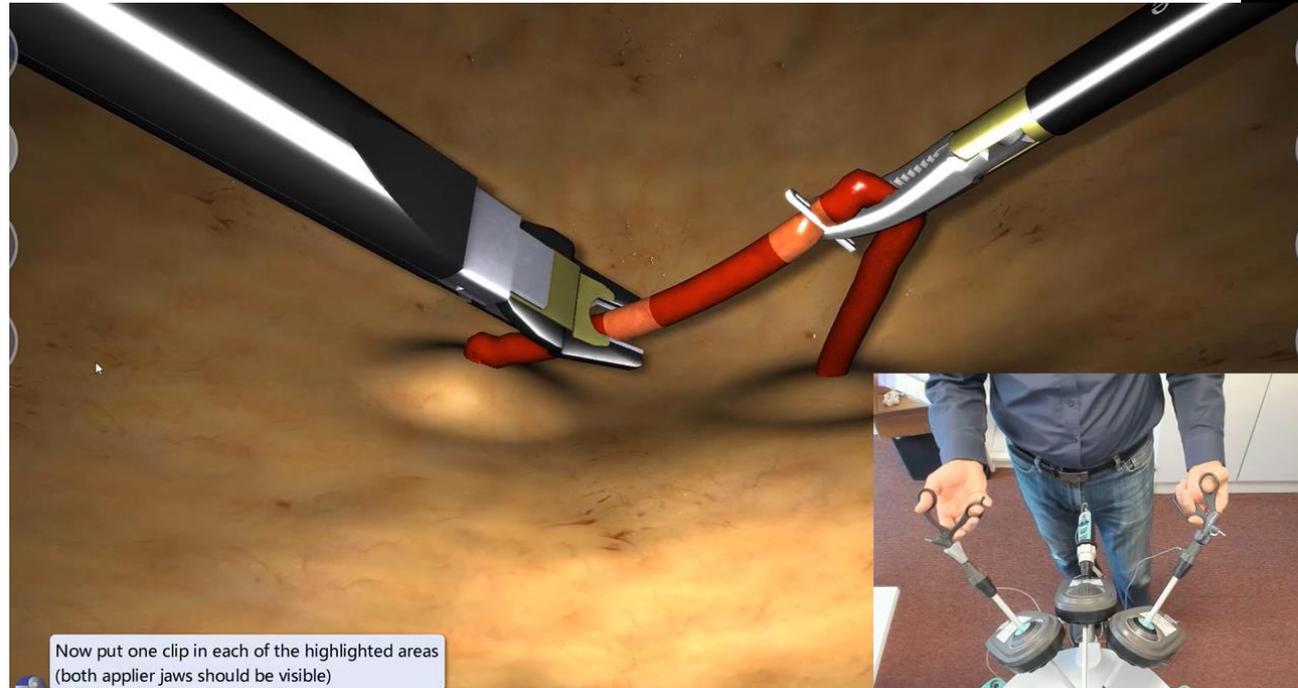


C. Rucker  
U. of Tennessee  
 $\varnothing 4$  mm

# Some Research Prototypes

## Further with CAMI team

- Surgical analytics & open platform
  - Surgical training, simulation and real word data assessment – Equipex+ TIRREX
  - Towards an open platform and simulators of continuum robots



## Challenges wrt ATSG

- Perception
  - Tracking/localization, sensor integration/fusion
  - Shape detection
- Reasoning
  - Model-perception fusion, towards closing the control loop
- Action
  - Miniaturized actuation, localized actuation, ...
- CDP 2022 : Robots for Real World Interaction (PI: Olivier Aycard – LIG)
  - Fablab MSTIC, GIPSA-lab, G-SCOP, INRIA, LIG, LIP, LJK, LPNC, MSH Alpes, TIMC
  - Usage and application-driven global design, in close collaboration with SSH community



<https://www-timc.imag.fr/GMCAO>



[sites.google.com/view/ctaha](https://sites.google.com/view/ctaha)



[Taha.Chikhaoui@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr](mailto:Taha.Chikhaoui@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr)