

Mobile Robot Mechanism

Howie Choset

CLASSIFICATIONS



Field



Factory

CLASSIFICATIONS



Outdoor



Indoor

CLASSIFICATIONS



Wheeled



Non-Wheeled

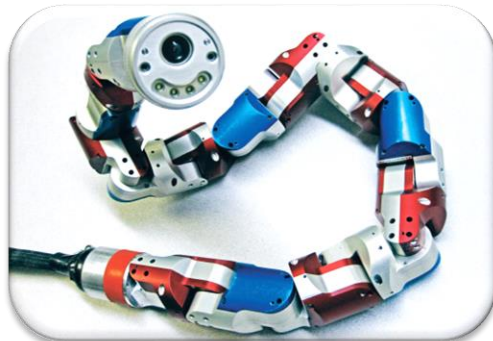
CLASSIFICATIONS



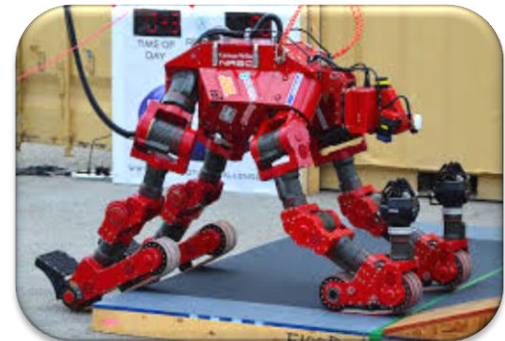
Wheeled



Legged



Whole body



Hybrid

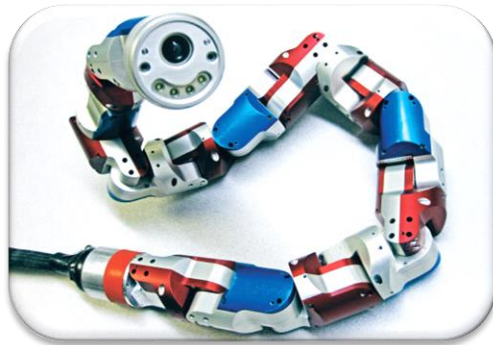
ALREADY NOT A GOOD CLASSIFICATION



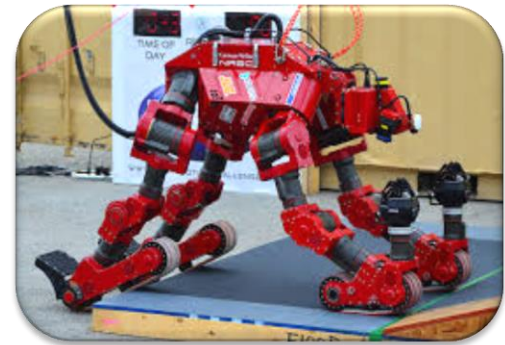
Wheeled



Legged



Whole body



Hybrid

TYPES OF WHEELED SYSTEMS (AGVS)



Carrier (Savant)



Tow (Seegrid)



Transport (Kiva)

Wheels: Steer and Drive (Aim and Go)

Fixed Axle: Differential Drive

Two wheels and a caster

Skid Steer

Omni-wheels

Mechanum wheels

Steerable Axle

Ackerman

Synchromive

Multi-body

Indirect

Wheels: Steer and Drive (Aim and Go)

Fixed Axle: Differential Drive

Two wheels and a caster

Skid Steer

Omni-wheels

Mechanum wheels

Steerable Axle

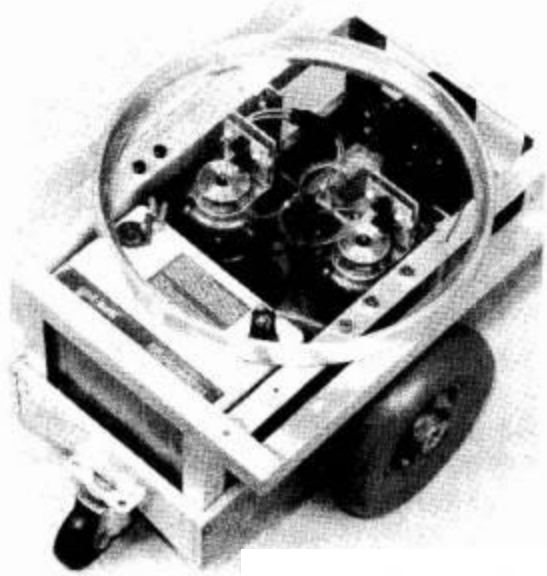
Ackerman

Synchromive

Multi-body

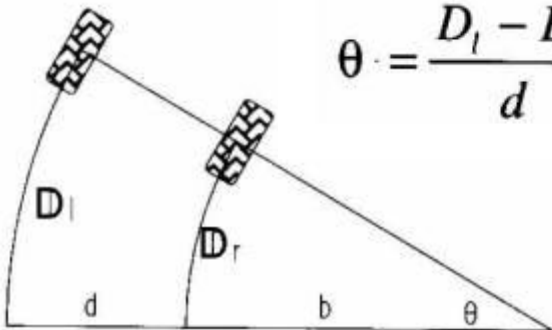
Indirect

TWO WHEELS AND A CASTER



$$D = \frac{D_l + D_r}{2}$$

$$\theta = \frac{D_l - D_r}{d}$$



Pictures from "Navigating Mobile Robots: Systems and Techniques" Borenstein, J.

Advantages:

- Simple drive system
- Larger wheels handle bumps

Disadvantages:

- Slippage and poor odometry results
- Caster cause undesirable motion
- Careful calibration for good control
- Takes a larger wheel to handle bumps

CASTERS

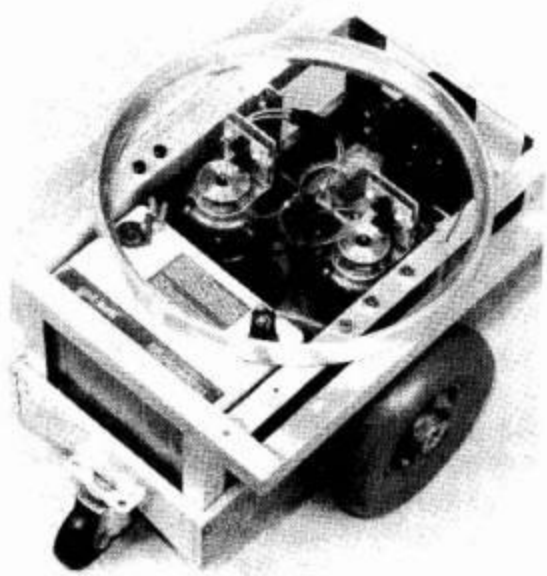
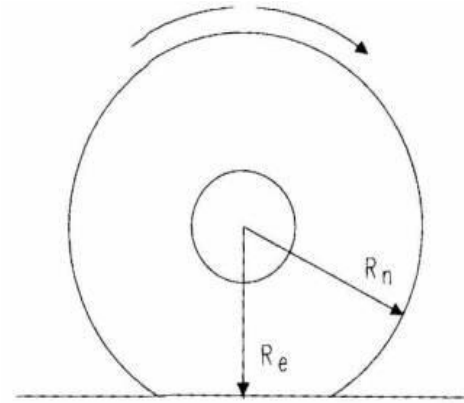
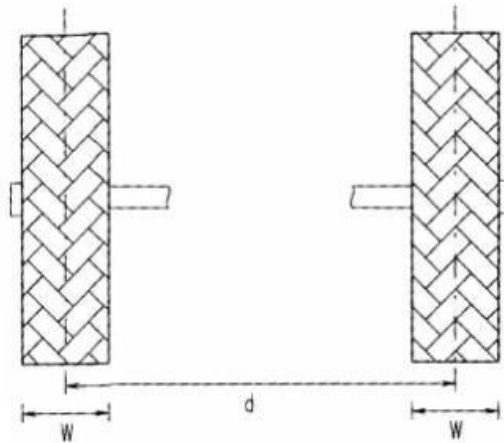


Photo courtesy of Nolan Hergert

CALIBRATION



Changing diameter makes for uncertainty in dead-reckoning error

Dragon runner

(Schempf; NREC, Automatika)

Dragon Runner

Takes a
lickin'
but keeps on
runnin'

A view from the Robot



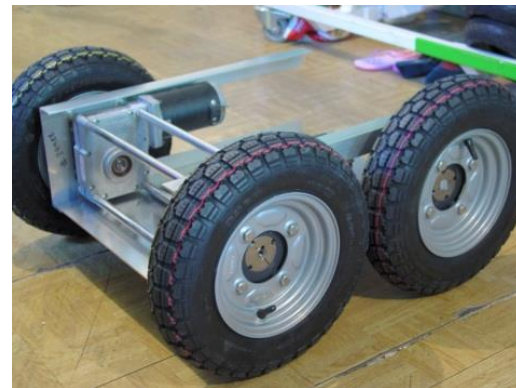
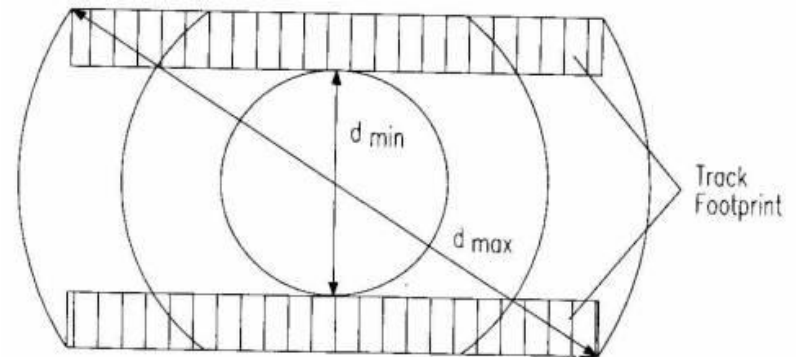
SKID STEERING

Advantages:

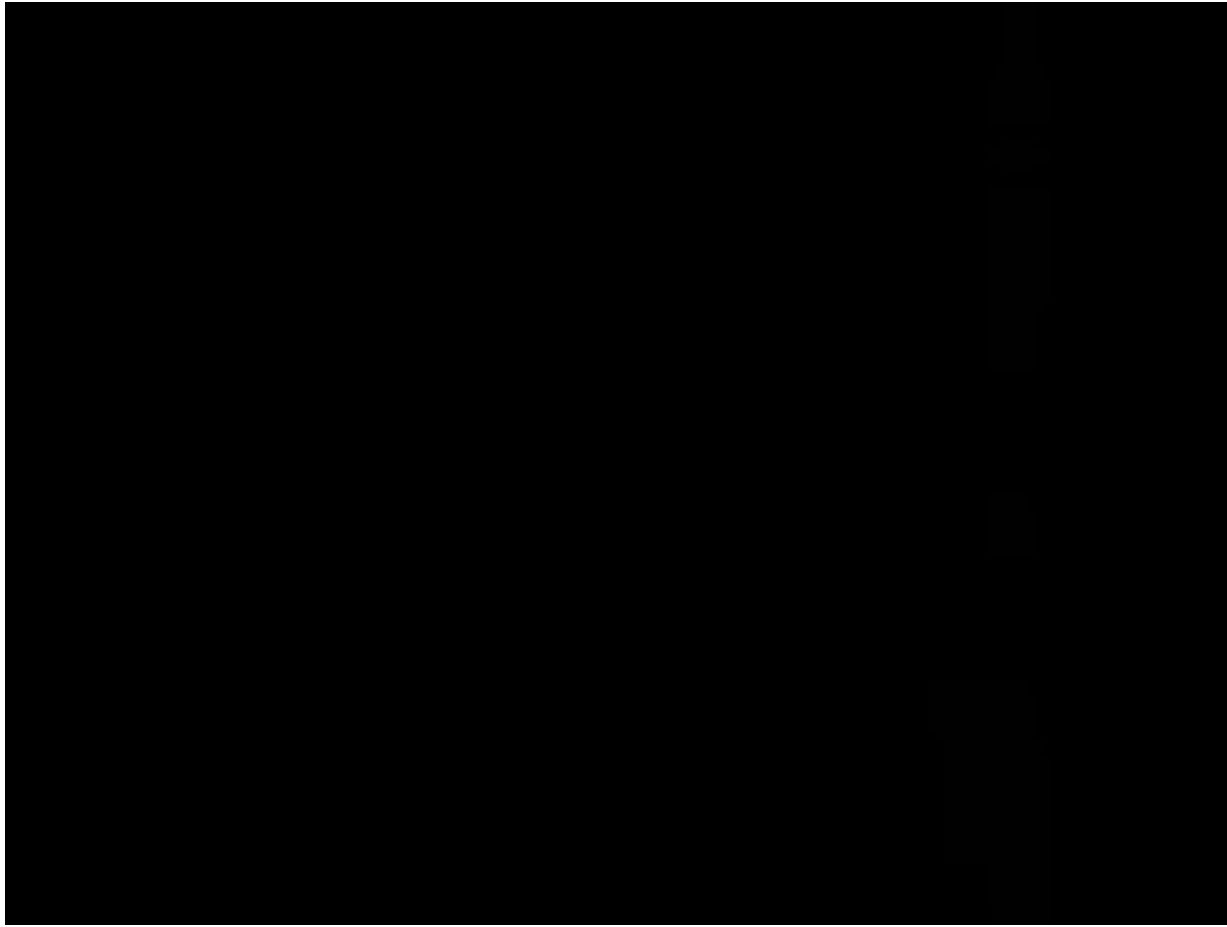
- Simple drive system

Disadvantages:

- Slippage and poor odometry results
- Requires a large amount of power to turn



IRobot, Packbot



Rescue Robot Quince (IRS、furo、Tadokoro)



TEPCO Using QUINCE



Wheels: Steer and Drive (Aim and Go)

Fixed Axle: Differential Drive

Two wheels and a caster

Skid Steer

Omni-wheels

Mechanum wheels

Steerable Axle

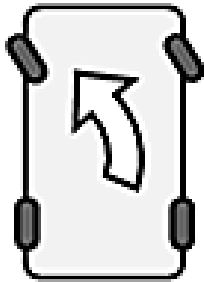
Ackerman

Synchromive

Multi-body

Indirect

Wheels: Steer and Drive (Aim and Go)



(a)

Two wheel steer



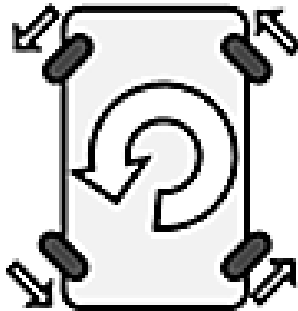
(b)

Four wheel steer



(c)

Crab steer



(d)

Zero turn

Steerable Axle

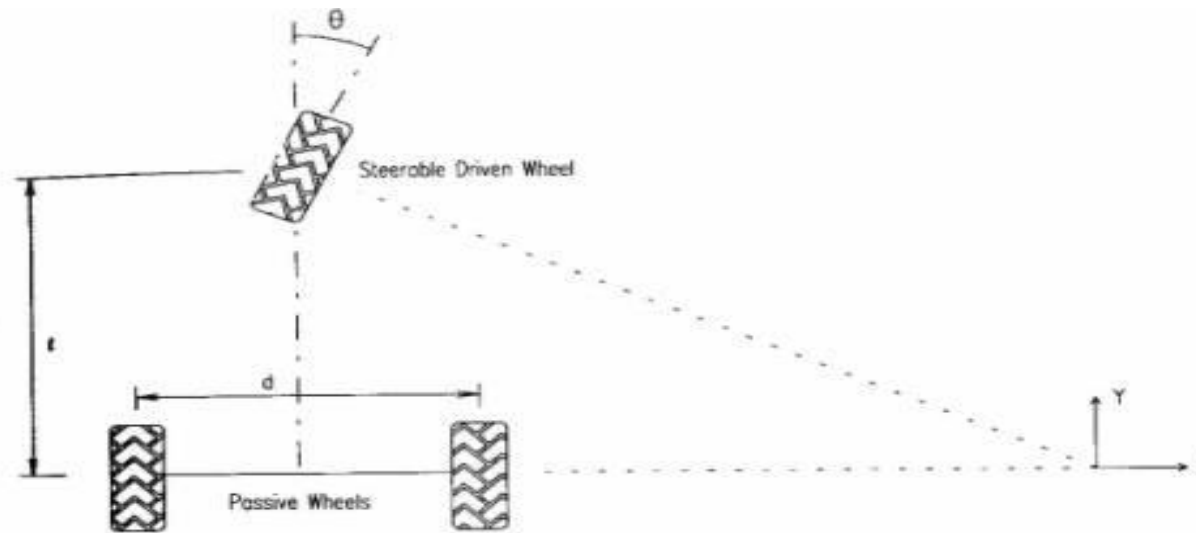
Ackerman

Synchrodive

Multi-body

Indirect

TRICYCLE STEERING



Pictures from "Navigating Mobile Robots: Systems and Techniques" Borenstein, J.

- Advantages:
 - No sliding

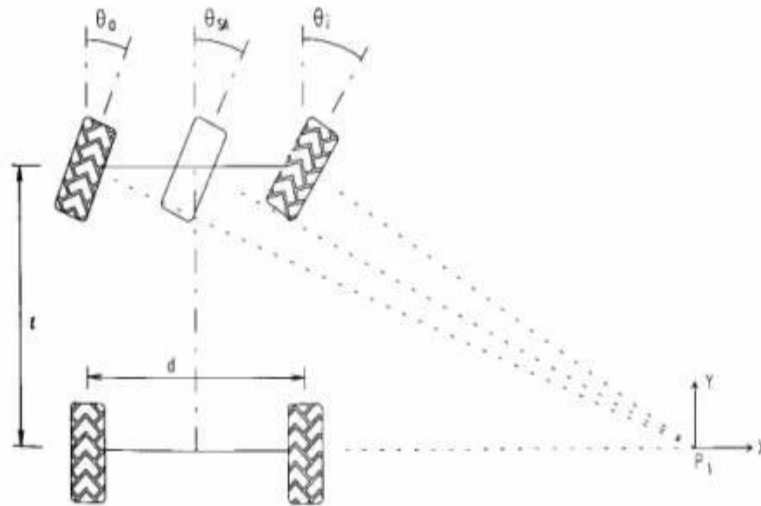
- Disadvantages:
 - Non-holonomic planning required

ACKERMAN STEERING

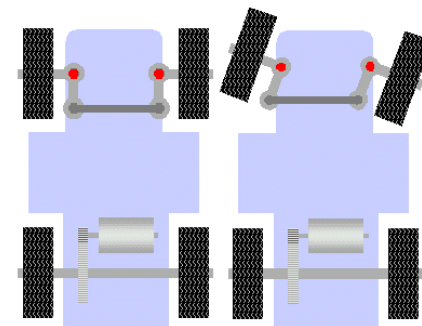
$$\cot \theta_i - \cot \theta_o = \frac{d}{l}$$

where:

θ_i = relative steering angle of inner wheel
 θ_o = relative steering angle of outer wheel
 l = longitudinal wheel separation
 d = lateral wheel separation.



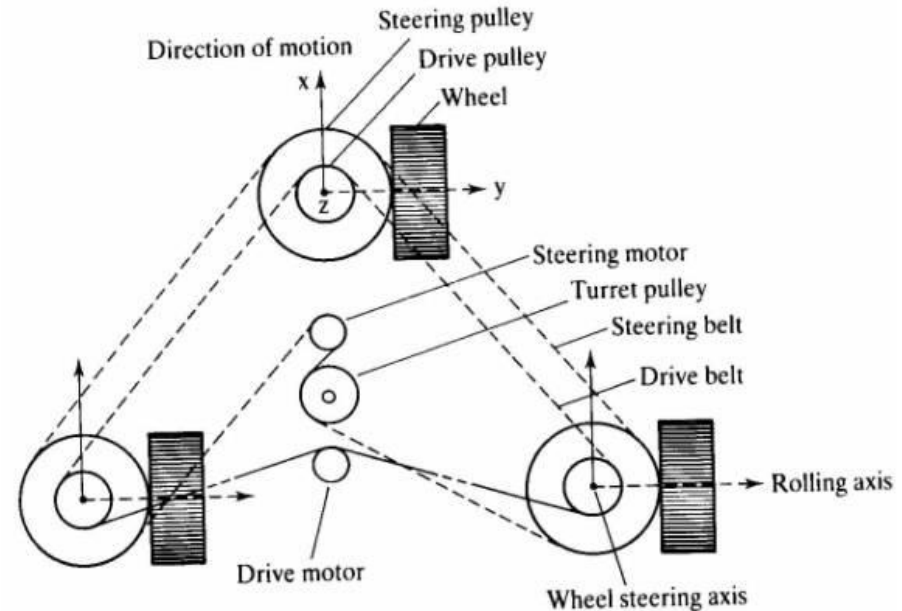
- Advantages:
 - Simple to implement
 - Simple 4 bar linkage controls front wheels
 - No slipping
- Disadvantages:
 - Non-holonomic planning required



SYNCHRODRIVE



Pictures from "Navigating Mobile Robots: Systems and Techniques" Borenstein, J.



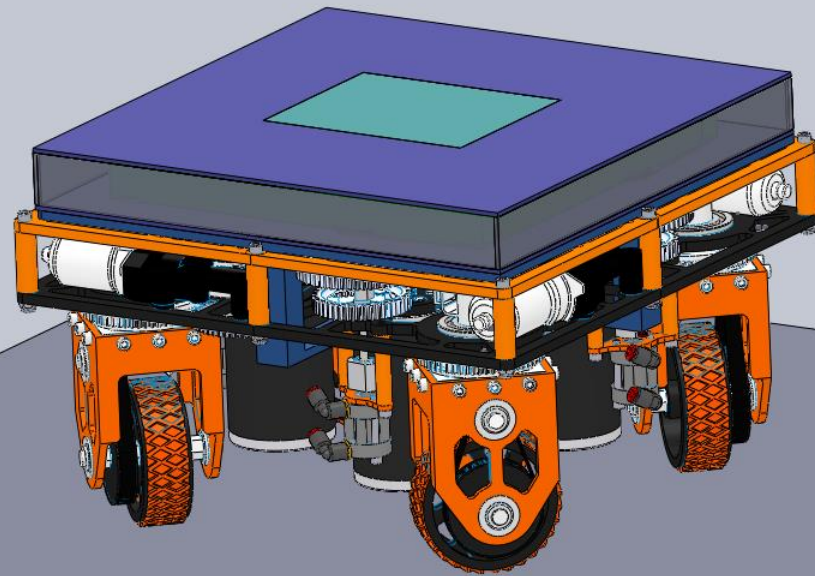
Advantages:

- Separate motors for translation and rotation makes control easier
- Straight-line motion is guaranteed mechanically

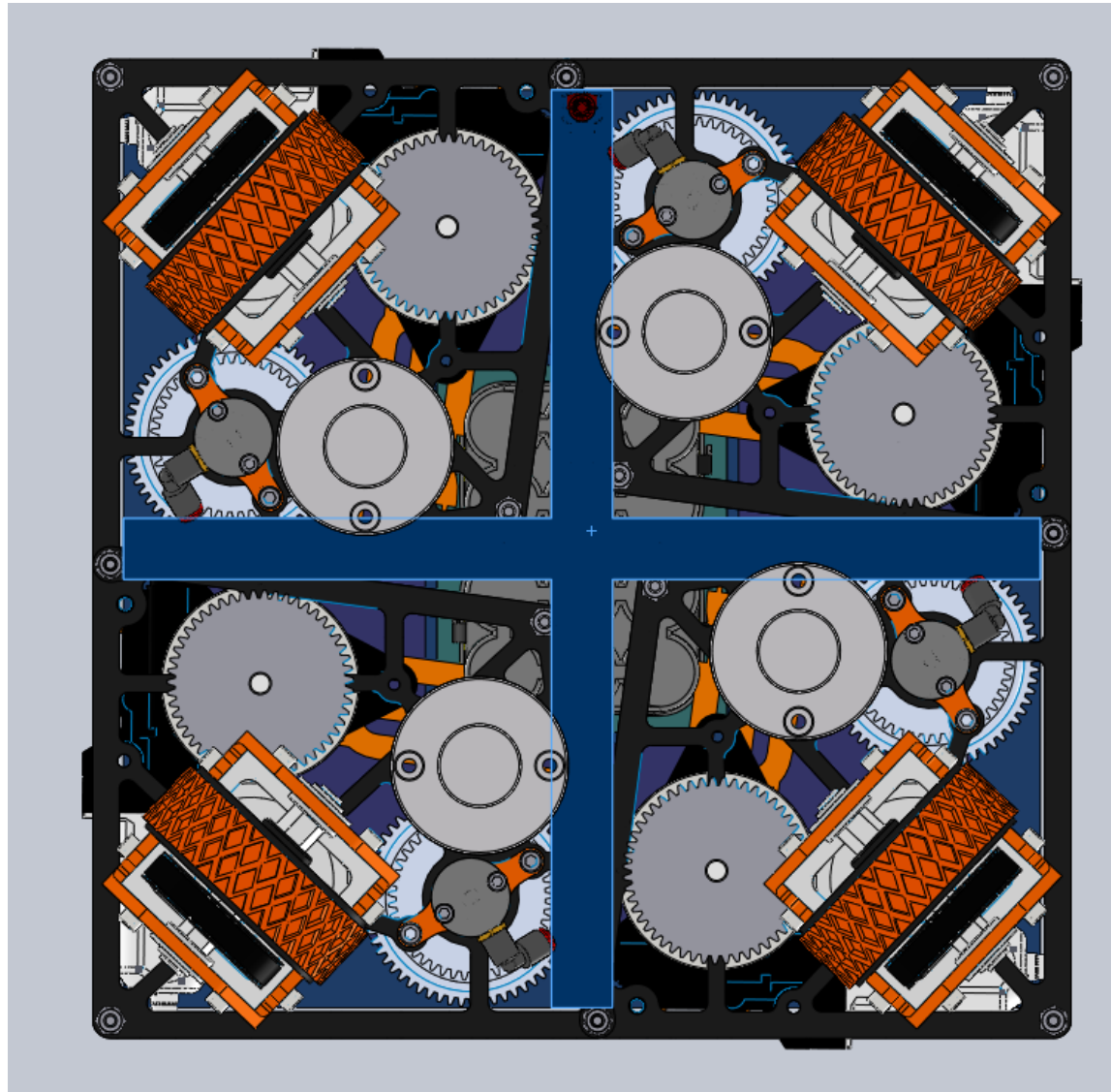
Disadvantages:

- Complex design and implementation

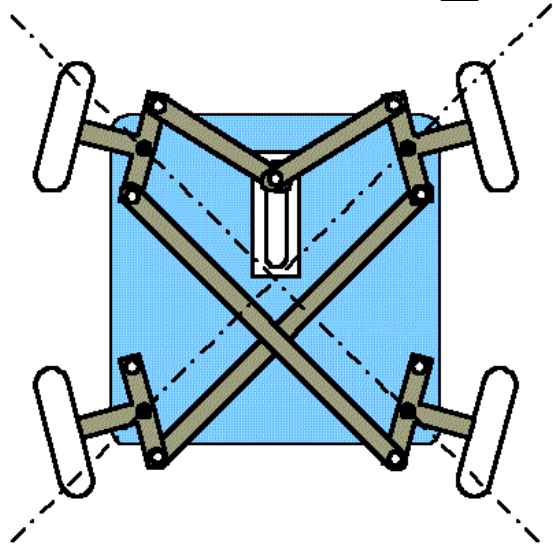
SYNCHRODRIVE



SYNCHRODRIVE (BOTTOM VIEW)



Something where Axle Can move



Advantages:

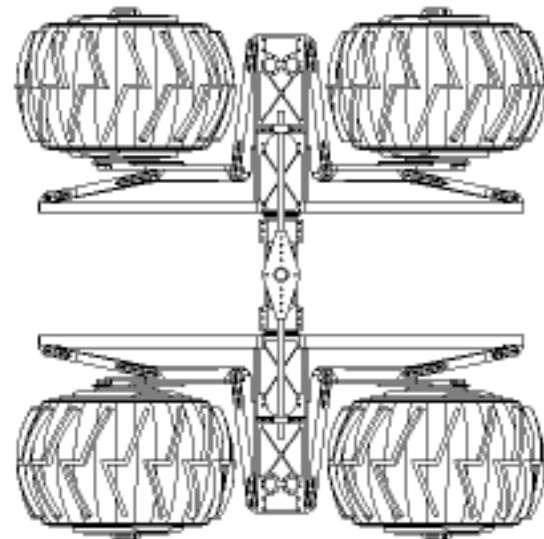
- Simple to implement except for turning mechanism

Disadvantages:

- Non-holonomic planning is required



Nomad: Red Whitaker



Internal Body Averaging Motors in the wheels

Wheels: Steer and Drive (Aim and Go)

Fixed Axle: Differential Drive

Two wheels and a caster

Skid Steer

Omni-wheels

Mechanum wheels

Steerable Axle

Ackerman

Synchromive

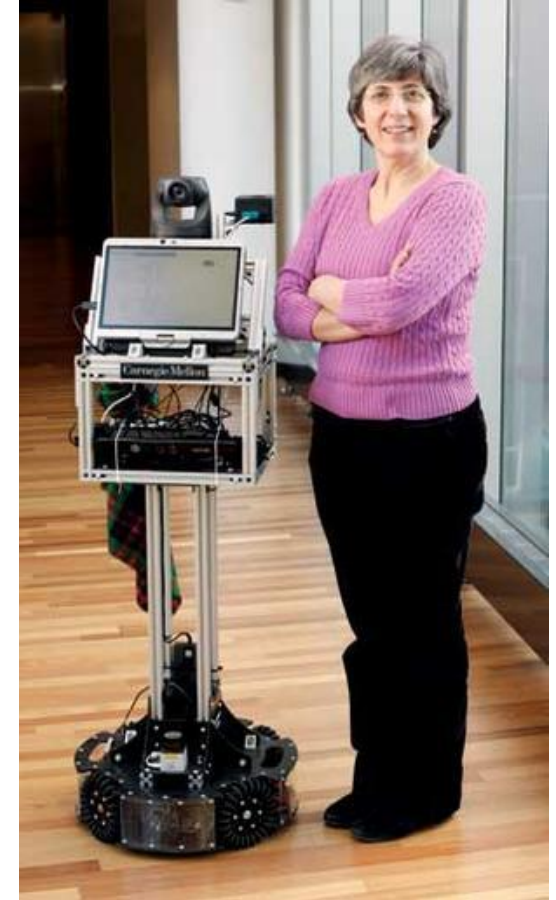
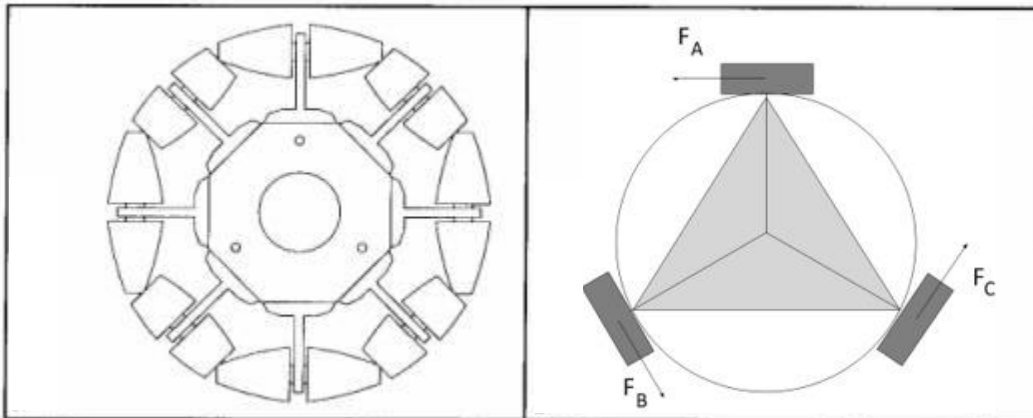
Multi-body

Indirect

OMNI WHEELS



Nourkash
Mason



Manuela Veloso and Cobot

OMNI WHEELS



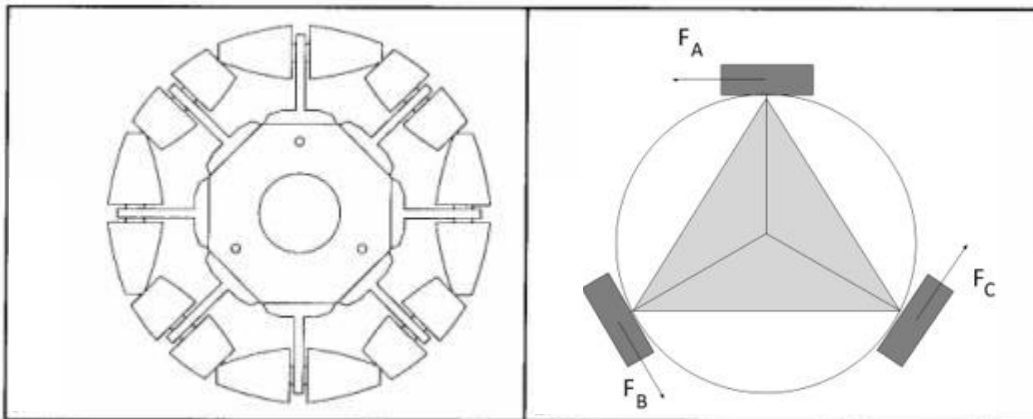
**Nourkbash
Mason**

Advantages:

- Allows complicated motions

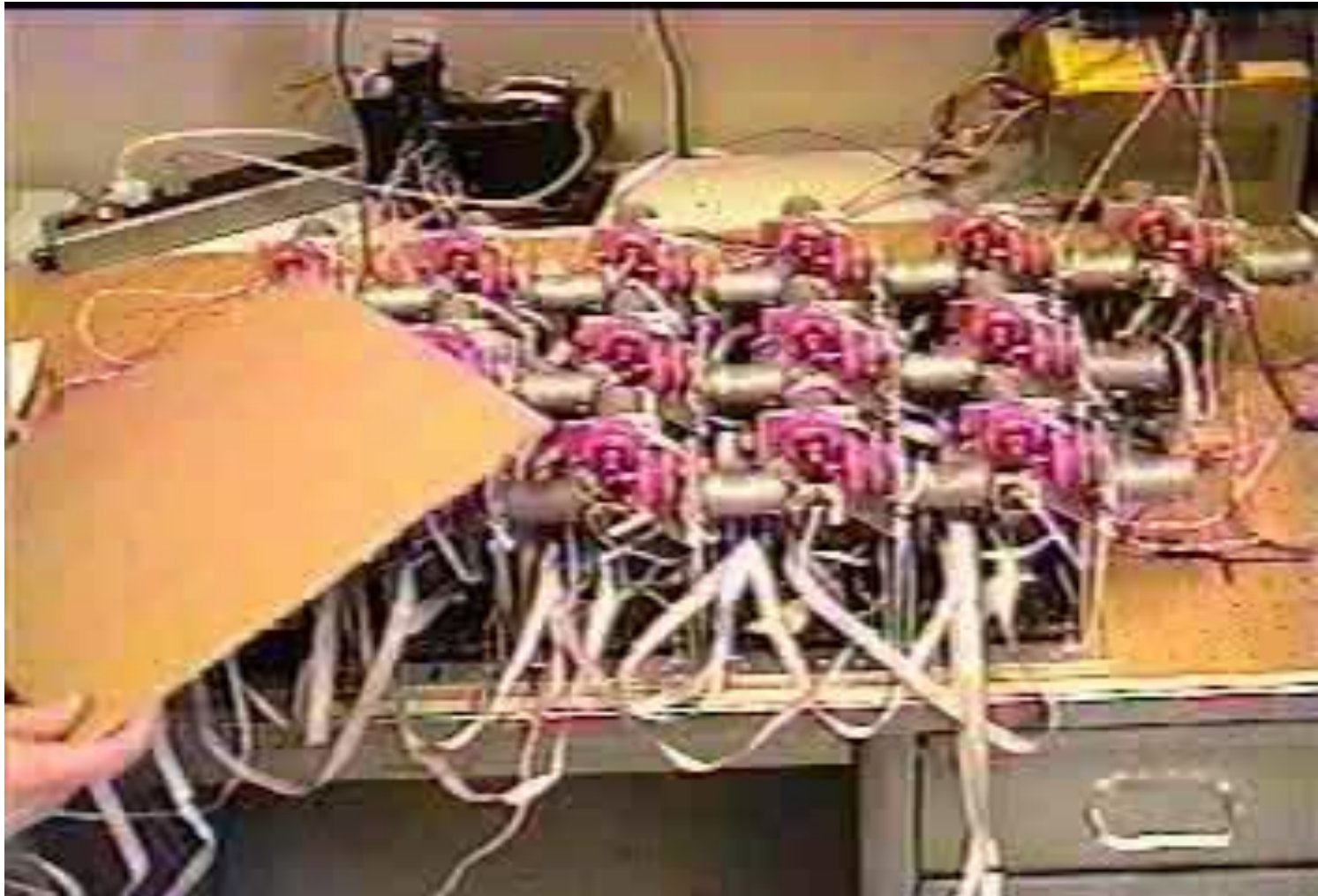
Disadvantages:

- No mechanical constraints to require straight-line motion
- Complicated implementation
- Does not handle bumps well

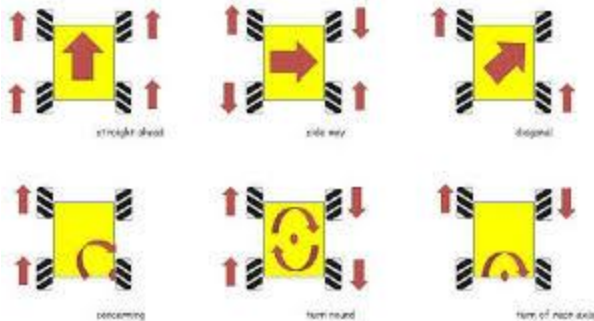


Manuela Veloso and Cobot

VIRTUAL VEHICLE



MECANUM WHEELS



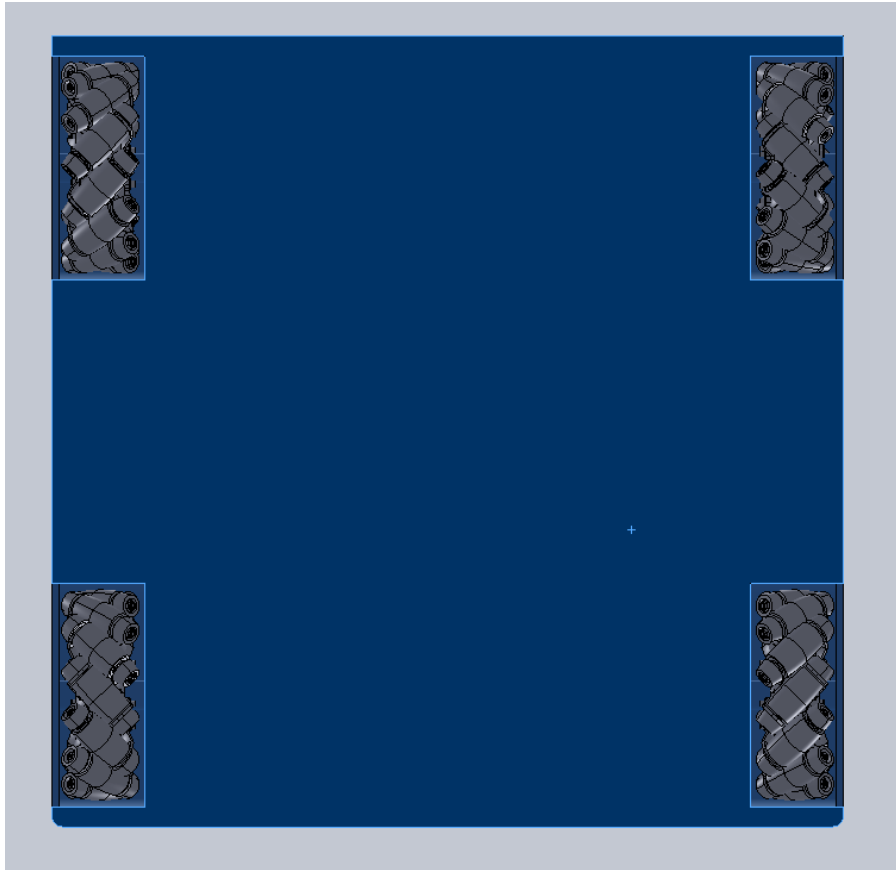
Advantages:

- Allows complicated motions

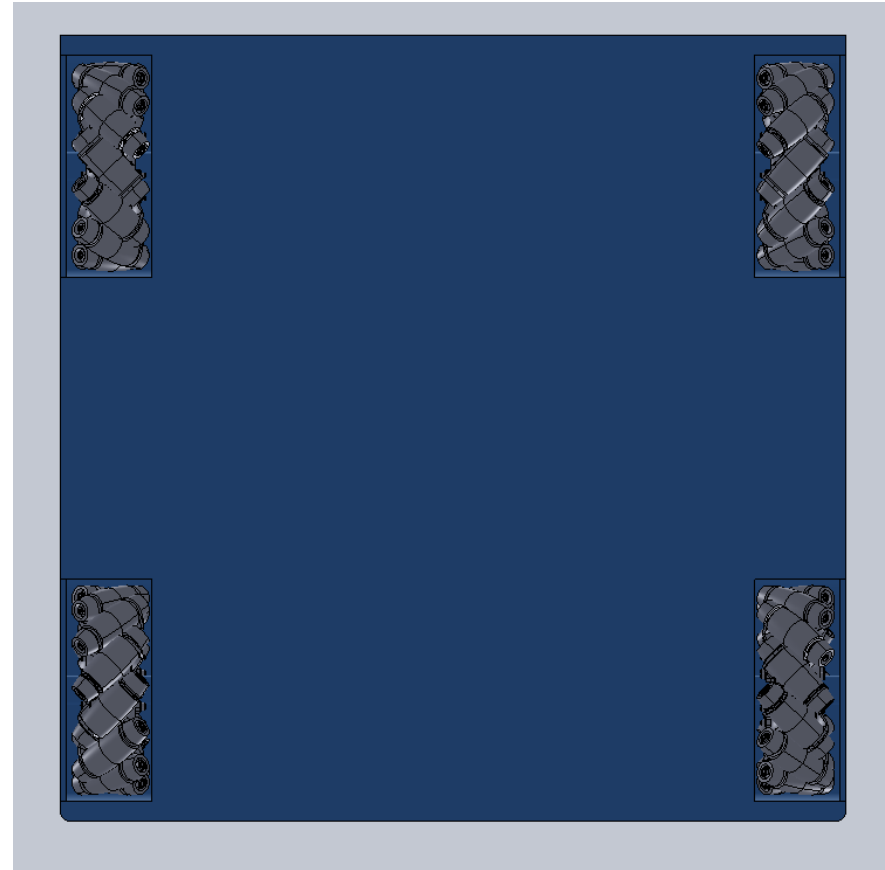
Disadvantages:

- No mechanical constraints to require straight-line motion
- Complicated implementation
- Does not handle bumps well

X'S AND O'S



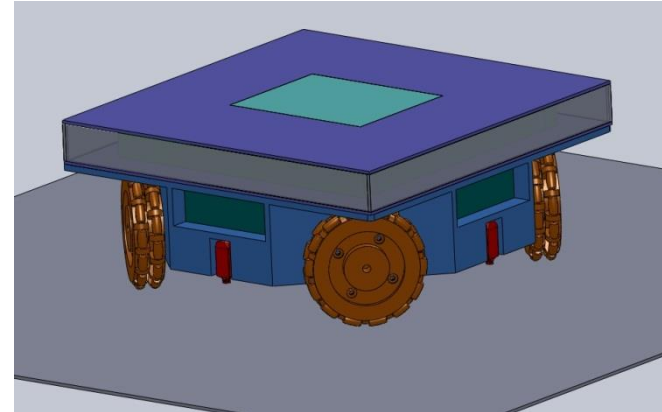
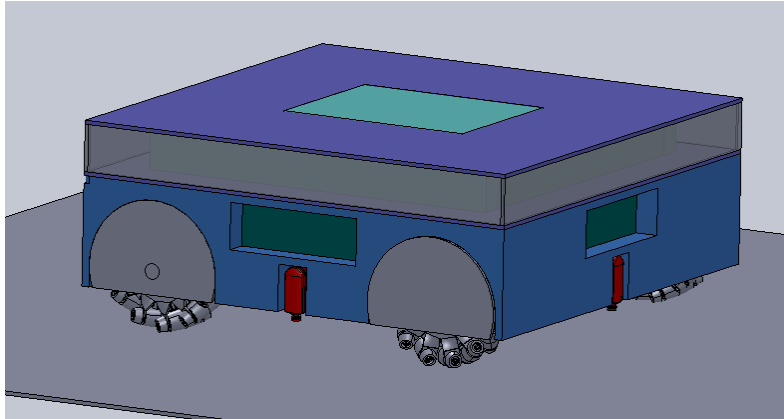
“O” Configuration



“X” Configuration

Bottom View

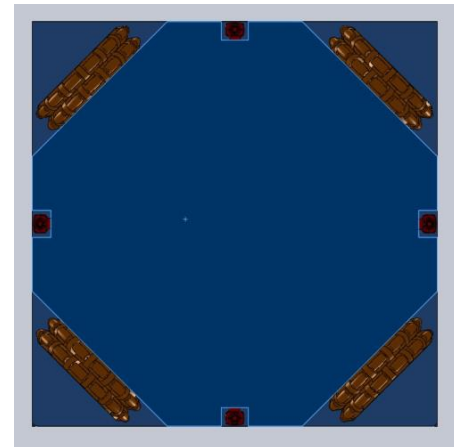
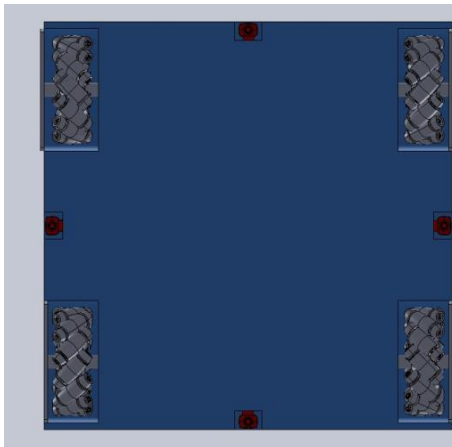
OMNI VS MECANUM WHEELS



Climbs
ramps
easier

More
power
efficient

Fit in a
normal
frame



Cheaper

More finicky

True omnidirection
motion

Point of contact
change is greater

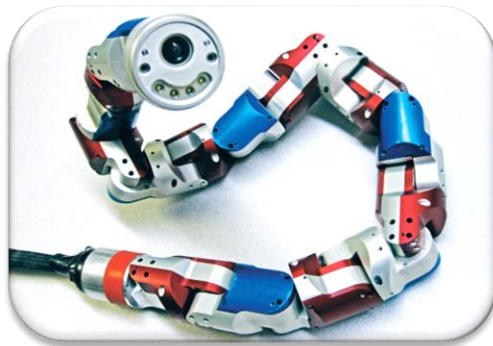
CLASSIFICATIONS



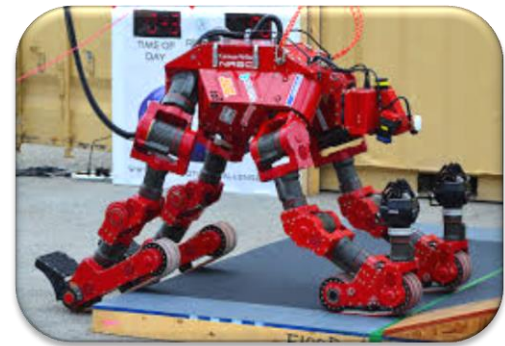
Wheeled



Legged



Whole body



Hybrid

Asimo



Early Raibert robots

Quadruped, 1984-1987



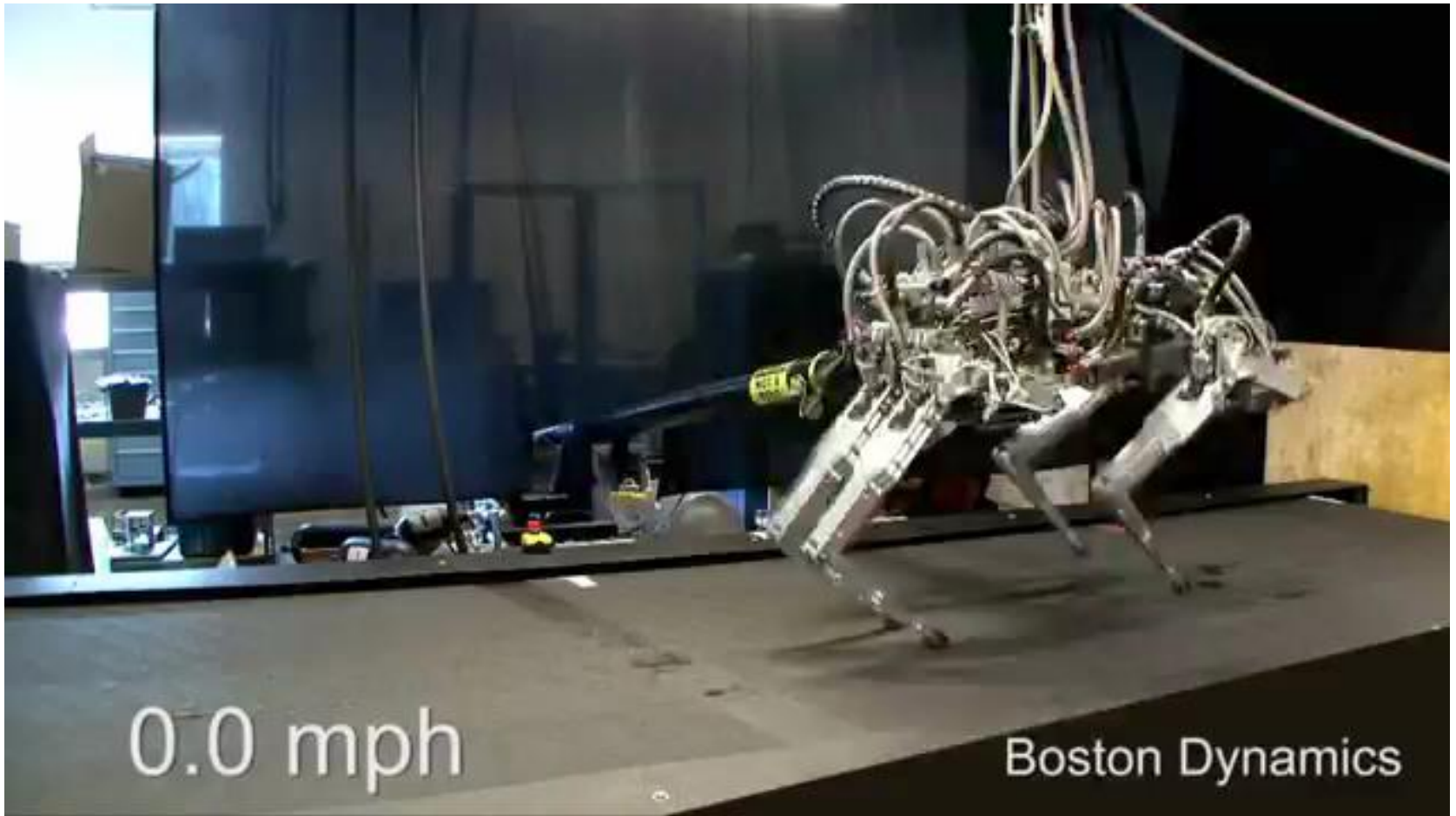
Planar Quadruped (Hodgins, 1985-1990)



Boston Dynamics Big Dog



Cheetah



Cheetah Robot runs 28.3 mph; a bit faster than Usain Bolt

Wildcat



Galloping

Boston Dynamics

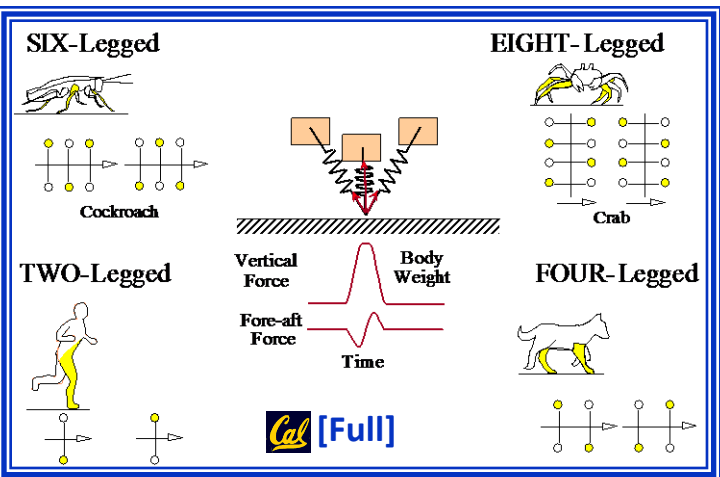
BDI Petman



RHex



Running Animals (and RHex) Anchor A Pogo Stick

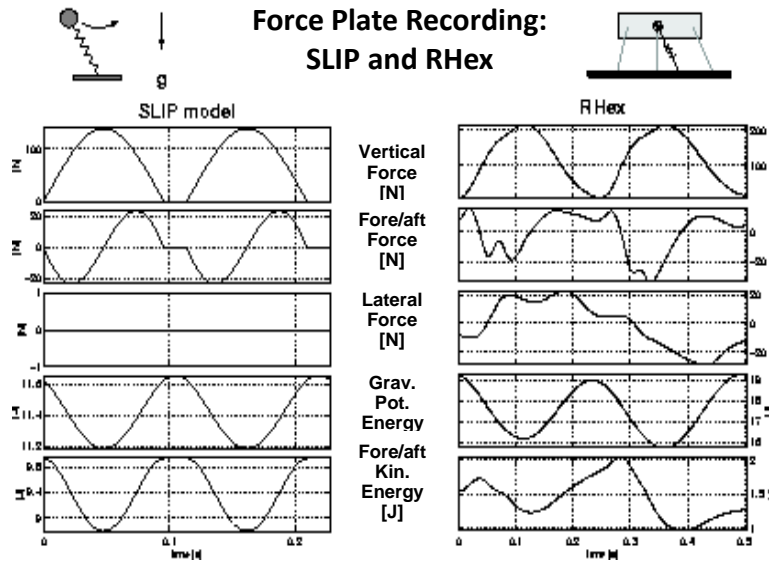


Biomechanics Literature:

- all animal runners studied to date
- have ground force reaction patterns
- that resemble a pogo stick

RHex Literature:

- Well tuned robot
- With large aerial phases
- exhibits ground reaction force patterns
- that resemble a pogo stick

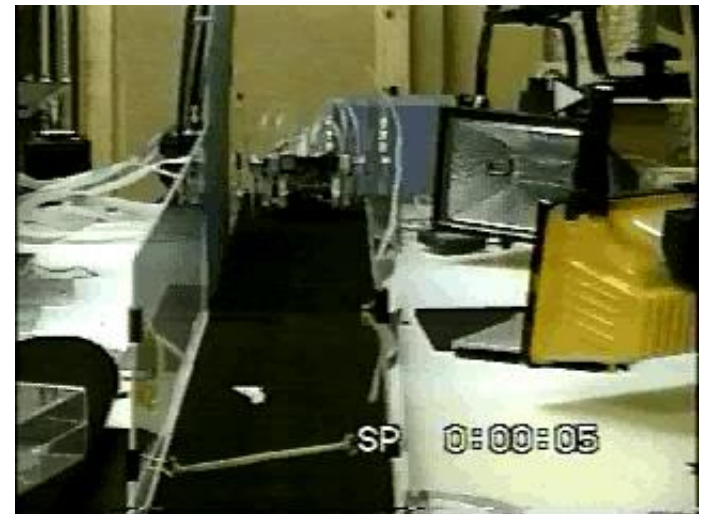
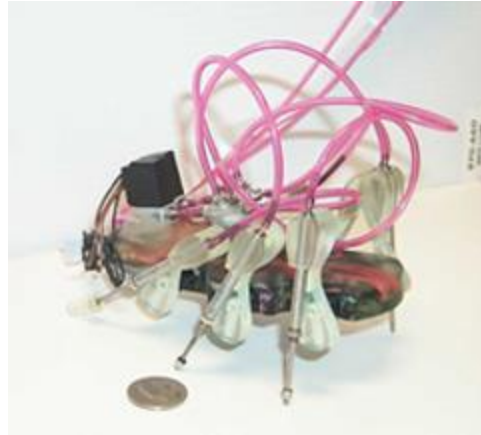


Tuned RHex anchors Spring Loaded Inverted Pendulum (SLIP)

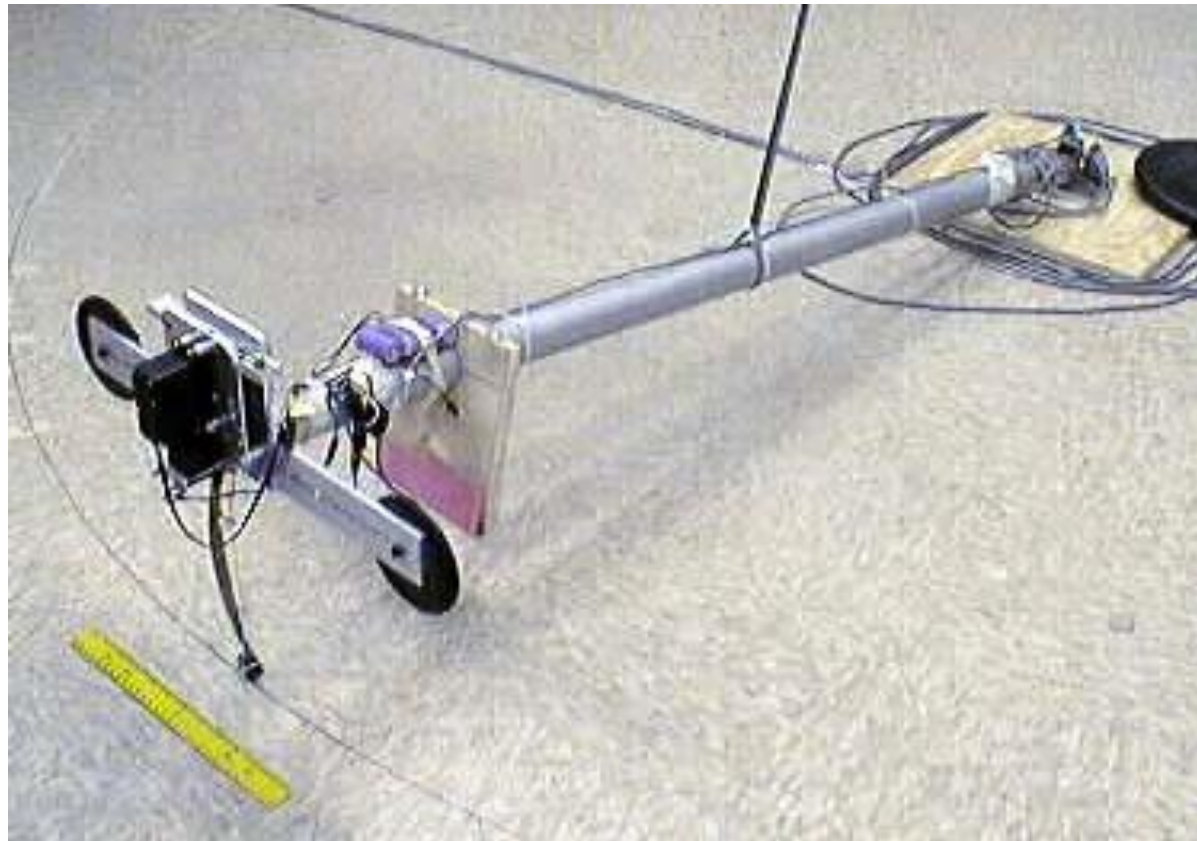
[Altendorfer, et al. *Autonomous Robots* 2001 11: 207-213]

Thanks to Dan Kodischek

Sprawlita



Bowleg Hopper (Brown, Zeglin, Mason)



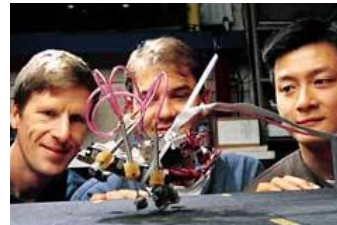
Bow Leg Climber

(Degani, Brown, Lynch, Mason, Choset)



Benefits of Compliance: Robustness

- Handle unmodeled phenomena
- Regulate friction (e.g. on textured surfaces)
- Minimize large forces due to position errors
- Overcome stiction
- Increase grasp stability
- Extra passive degree of freedom for rolling
- Locally average out normal forces (provides uniform pressure, no precise location)
- Lower reflected inertia on joints [Pratt]
- Energy efficiency (probably not for snakes)



Wheels vs. Legs

- Are legs better than wheels?

Wheels vs. Legs

- Are legs better than wheels?
- Are legs optimal?

With respect to what?

- Are legs better than wheels?
- Are legs optimal?

Metrics

Are wheels good?

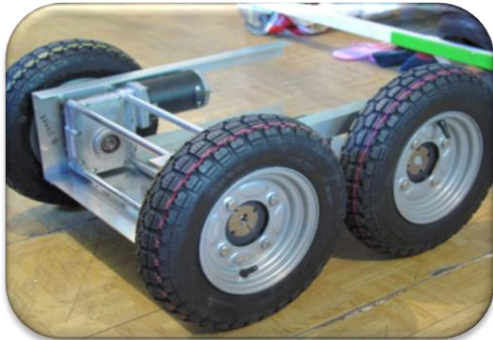
- Power efficient
- Constant contact with (flat) ground (no impacts)
- Easy and inexpensive to construct
- Easy and inexpensive to maintain
- Easy to understand
- Minimal steady-state inertial effects

Can only go on flat terrains?

Design Tradeoffs with Mobility Configurations

- Maneuverability
- Controllability
- Traction
- Climbing ability
- Stability
- Efficiency
- Maintenance
- Environmental impact
- Navigational considerations
- Cost
- Simplicity in implementation and deployment
- Versatility
- Robustness
- Accuracy
- Elegance? (if we are selling robots)
- Speed
- Manufacturability
- Safety

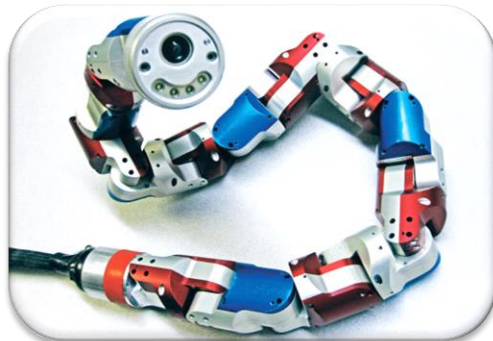
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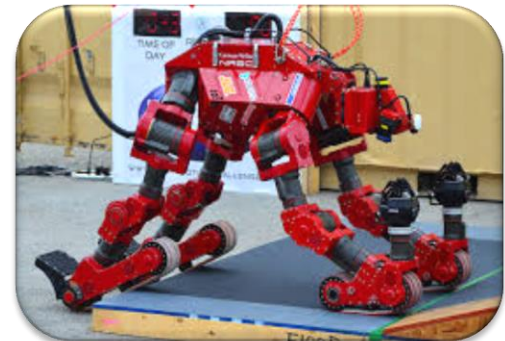
Wheeled



Legged



Whole body



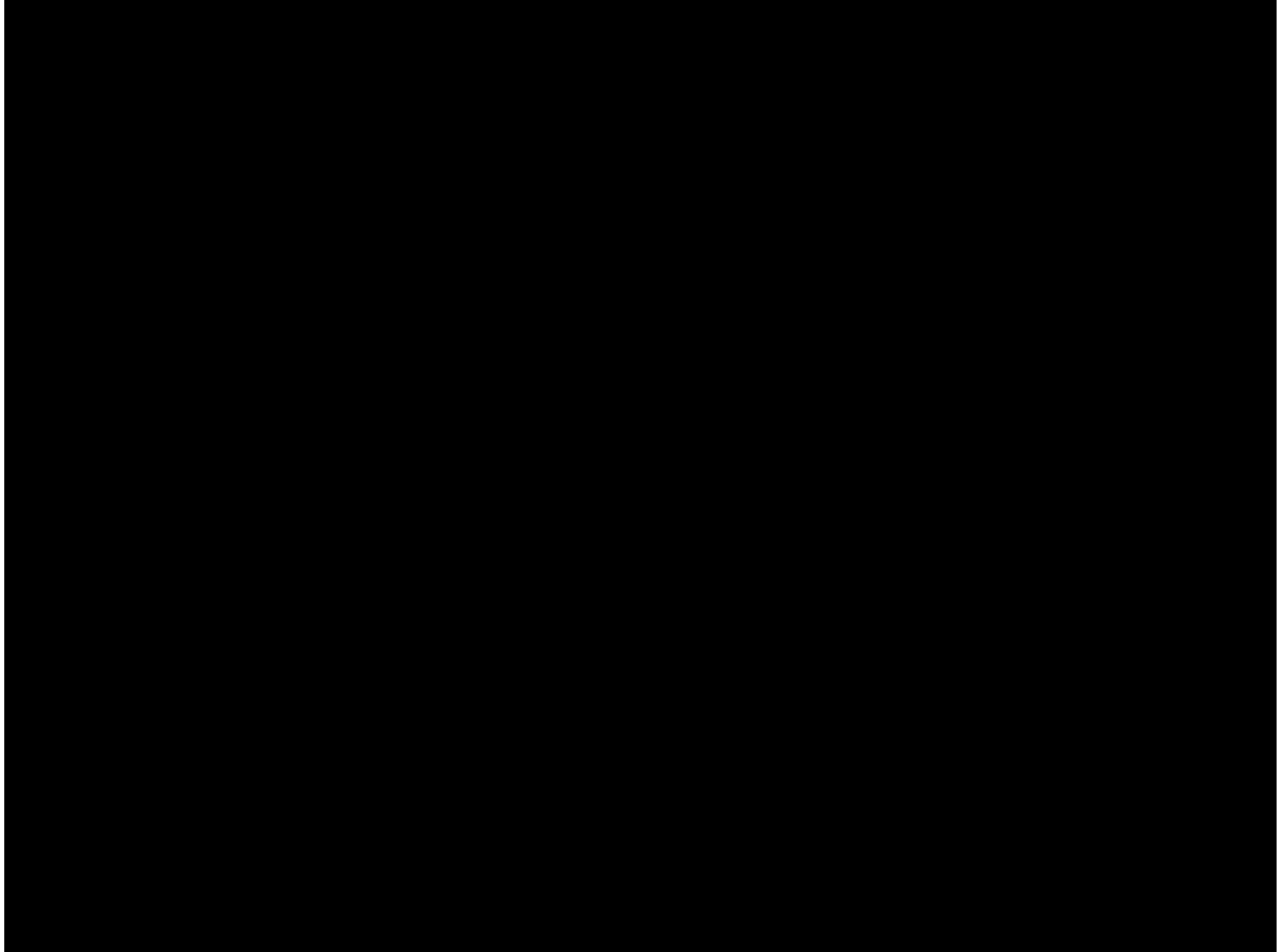
Hybrid

What's a wheel?

- Single wheel
- Ball
- Gait (think Rhex and Snake)

- And of course, tank treads

Gyrover (Brown)

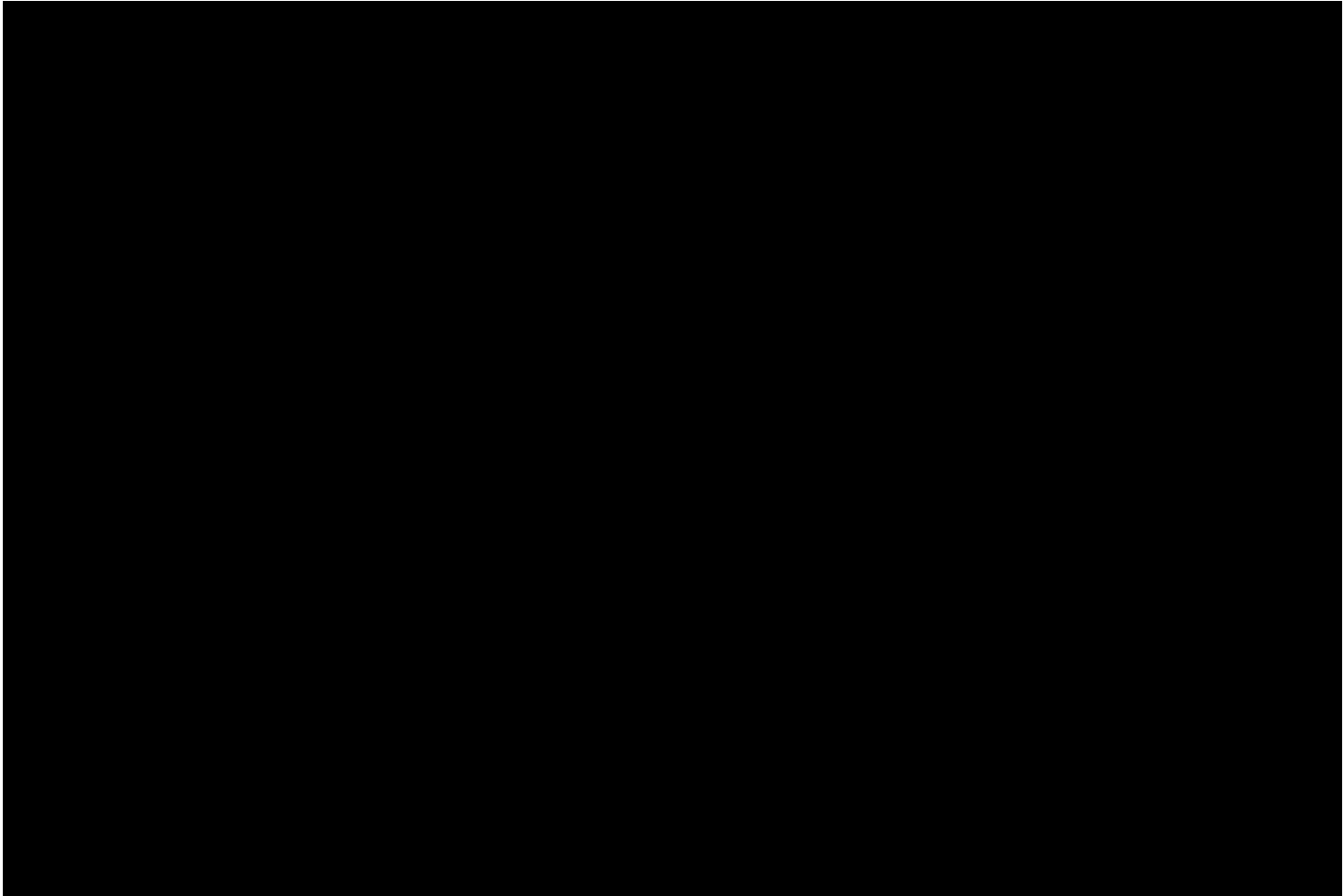


Ballbot, Ralph Hollis



"A Dynamically stable Single-Wheeled Mobile Robot with Inverse Mouse-Ball Drive."

NXT Ballbot



Horizontal and Vertical Motion

UGCV (Crusher) [Bares/Stentz, REC]

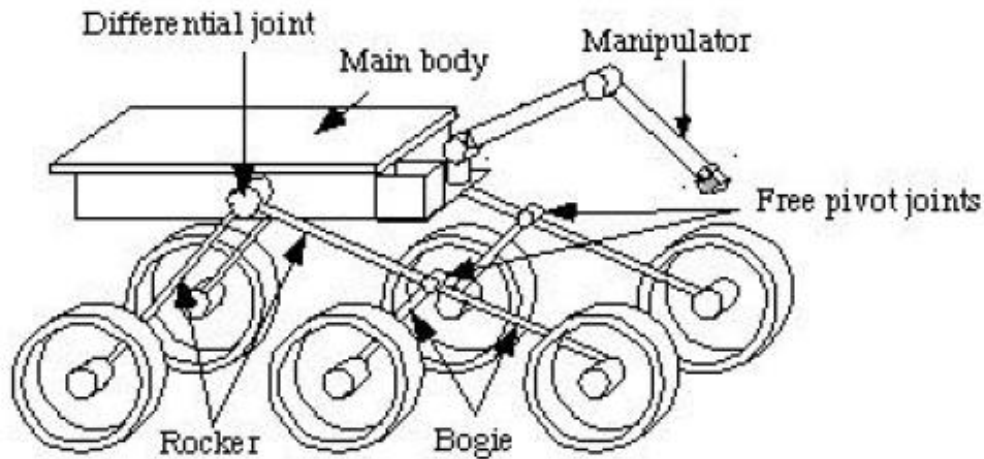
Crusher Unmanned Ground Vehicle
Testing Highlights

Copyright 2006 Carnegie Mellon

Recon Scout



Rocker Bogie



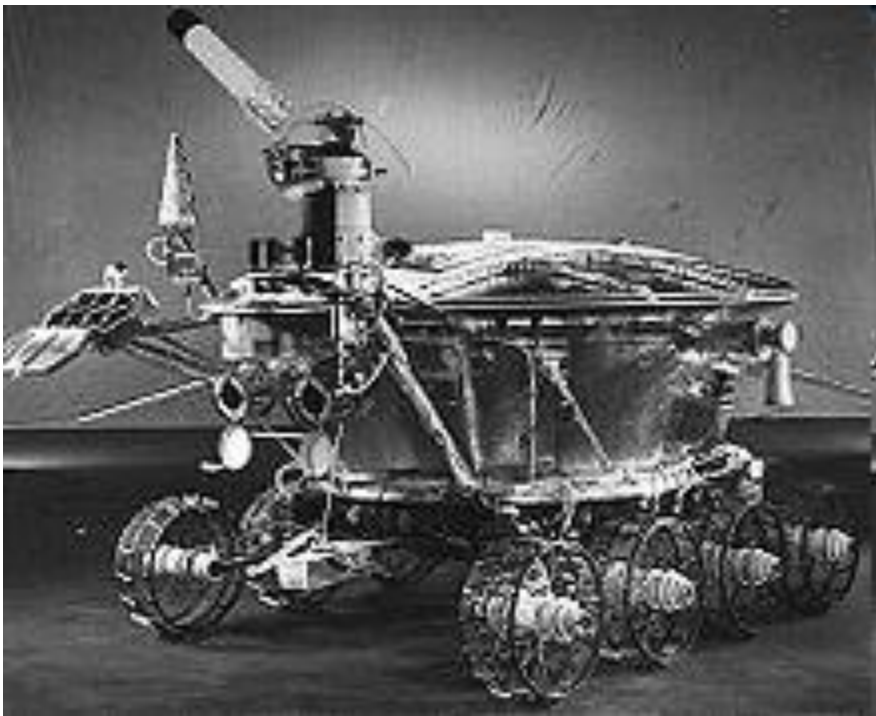
Taken from Hervé Hacot, Steven Dubowsky, Philippe Bidaud

<http://www.robotthoughts.com/index.php/lego/archives/2007/07/20/lego-nxt-rocker-bogie-suspension/>
<http://www.huginn.com/knuth/blog/2007/06/24/lego-nxt-rocker-bogie-suspension/>

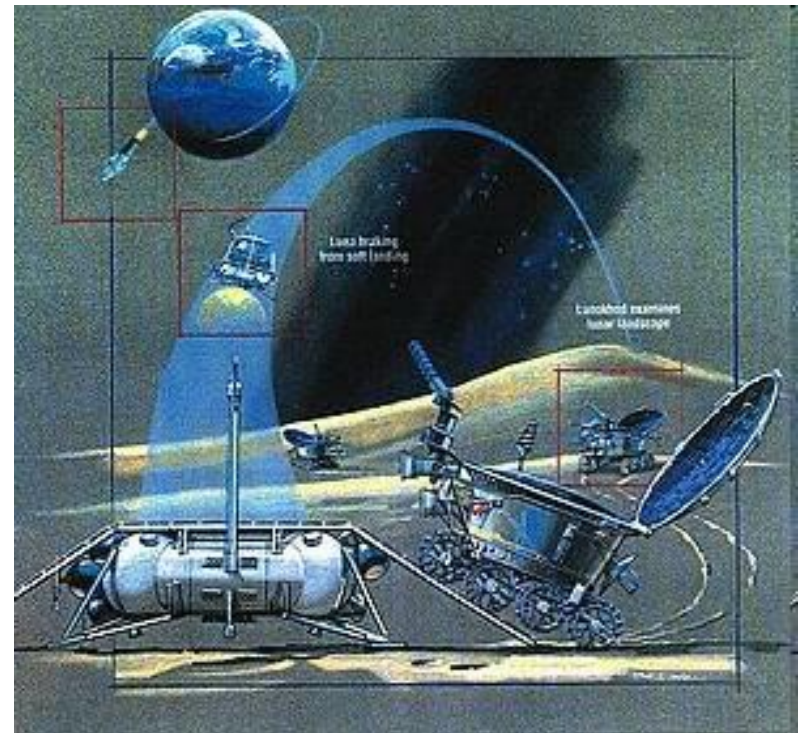
Rocker Bogie



Lunakod: Were we first?



In 322 days, L1 traveled 10.5km
Both operated 414 days, traveled 50km
In 5 years, Spirit and Opportunity 21km

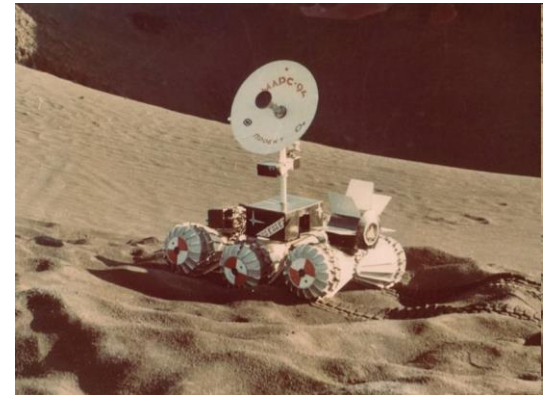


1969 Lunokhod 1A was destroyed at launch
1970 Lunokhod 1 landed on the moon
1973 Lunokhod 2 landed on the moon

Lunakod

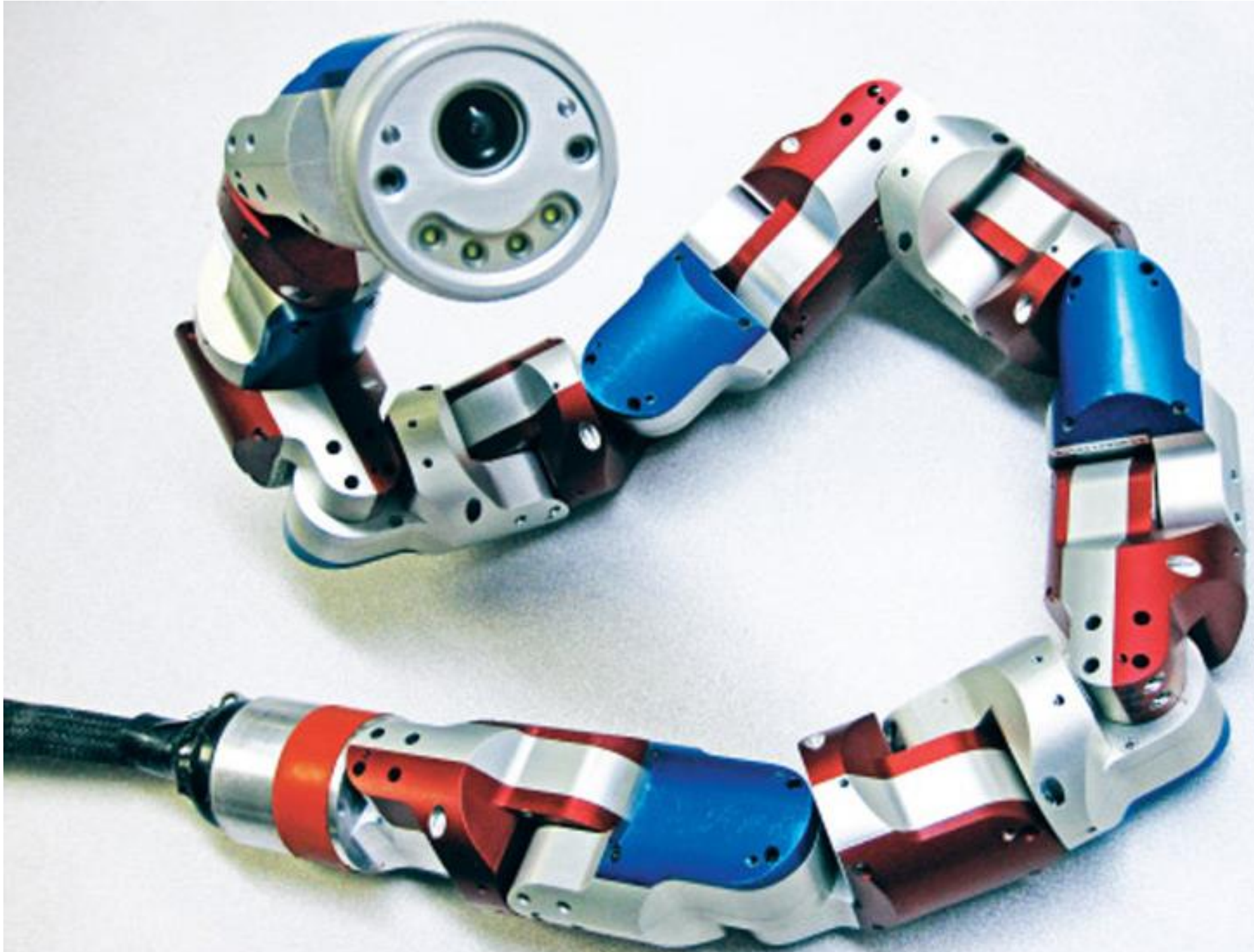


Marsakhod

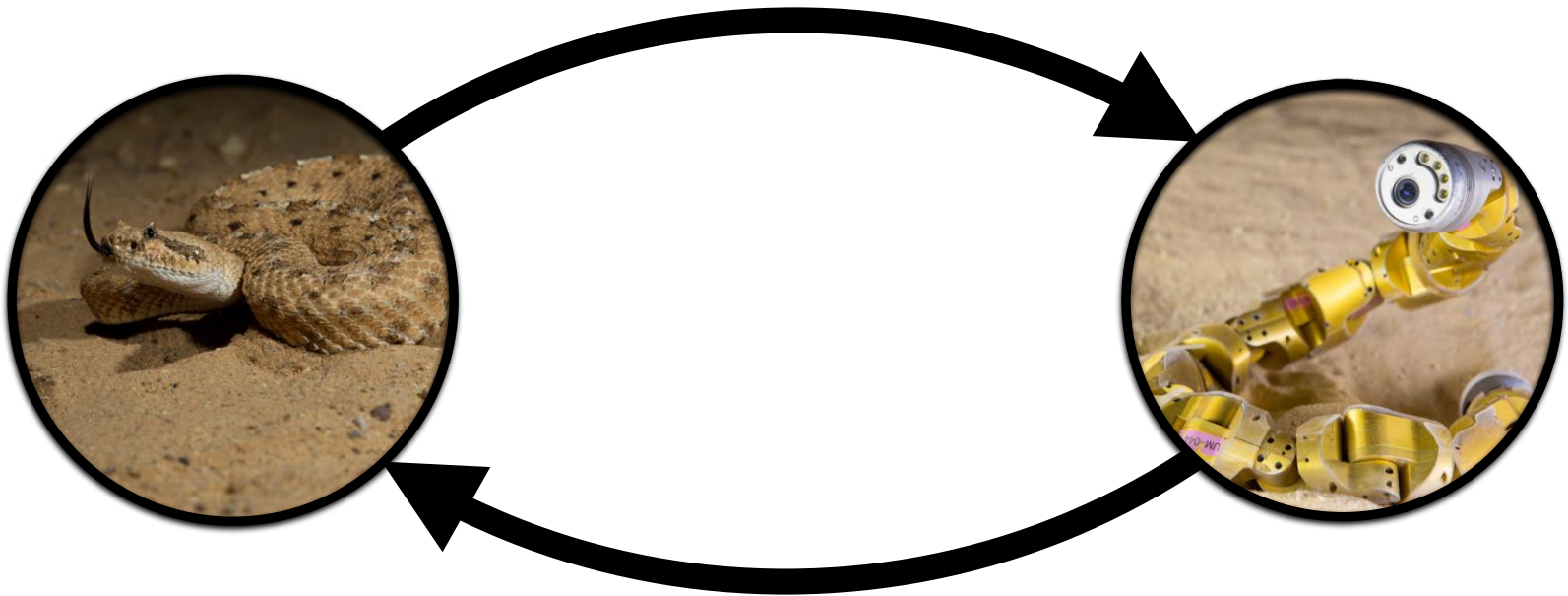


Marsokhod unskillful operator control





From Biology to Robotics and Back



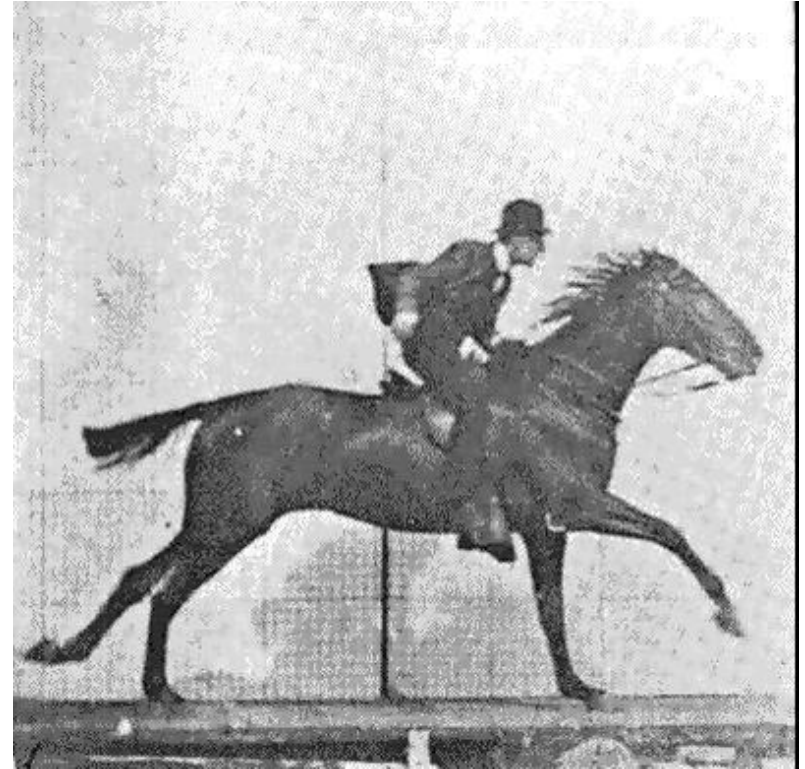
Howie Choset, Chaohui Gong, Matt Travers, Dan Goldman, Ross Hatton, Henry Ashtley

Gaits

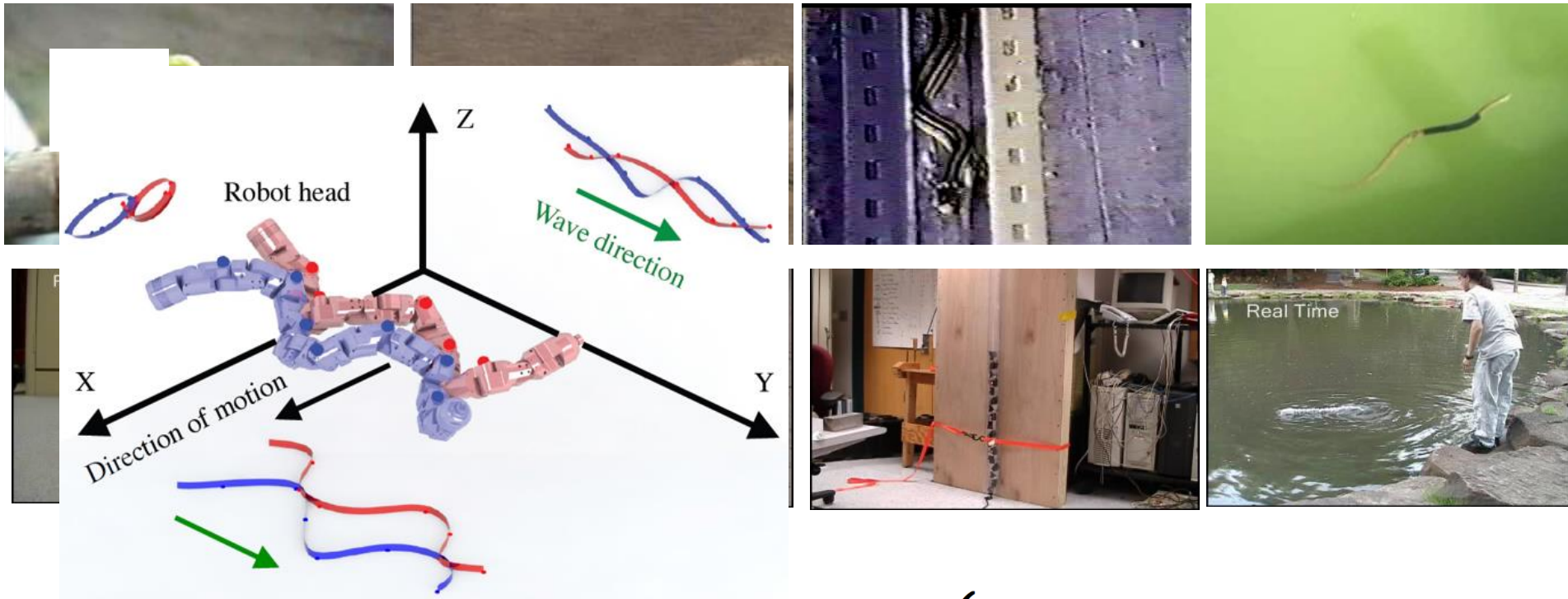
$$Q = G \times M$$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi &: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow M, \\ t &\mapsto r, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(t) &= \phi(t + \tau) \\ \tau &\in \mathbb{R} \end{aligned}$$



Compound Serpenoid Curve



~~$$\alpha(n, t) = \beta + A \sin(\theta)$$

$$\theta = \Omega n + \omega t$$~~

$$\alpha(n, t) = \begin{cases} \beta_{\text{odd}} + A_{\text{odd}} \sin(\theta_{\text{odd}}) \\ \beta_{\text{even}} + A_{\text{even}} \sin(\theta_{\text{even}} + \delta) \end{cases}$$

$$\theta_{\text{odd,even}} = (\Omega_{\text{odd,even}} n + \omega_{\text{odd,even}} t),$$

SAIC/CMU Snake

SAIC
From Science to Solutions

 Carnegie Mellon
THE ROBOTICS INSTITUTE

**Serpentine
Robotics**



Are snakes better than legs?



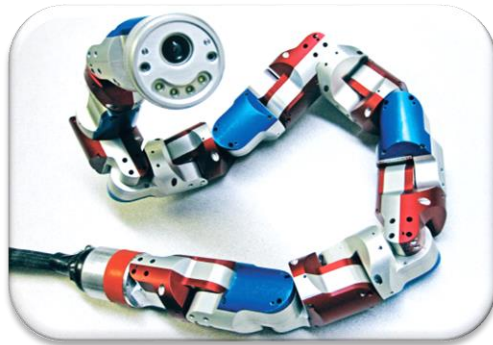
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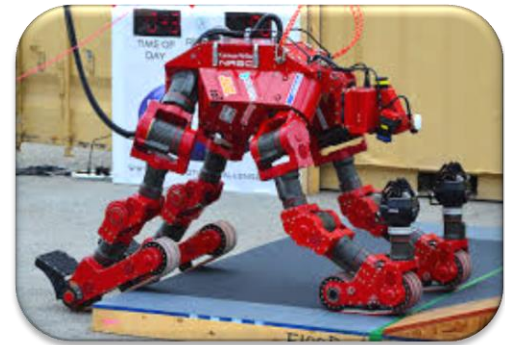
Wheeled



Legged



Whole body



Hybrid

Mobile Manipulators

- Romeo and Juliet
- HERB
- Boeing

Themes

- Drive and Steer
- Horiz and vert

Metrics

Standard metrics here

Lisa Slide here

Original email 12-24-2014

I was looking for something general and not specific to the Foxybots.

I thought there were other criteria than the ones you listed in Part 5.

We should also just create a list of all types of wheeled mobile bases

Wheel configurations

1. differential drive
2. skid steer
3. synchrodrive
4. omni-wheel based
5. mecanum wheel based

Suspension

1. none / soft wheels
2. springs, shock absorbers
3. kinematic - rocker bogie, Nomad, other mechanisms

What other classes should we consider??

Howie

END

Robot	Purpose	Size	Weight	Payload	Speed	Tech	Drive
RMT Robotics	Transport	40" Diameter 20" Height		Trays & Crates. Shelf or motorized rolers	1.5m/s	LIDAR, SLAM, path replanning, remote "call buttons"	2 Diff
Seegrid	Forklift/p ulling	Large		Pallets		Stereo cameras, SLAM, LIDAR/SICK 15cm virtual bumper	
Robotiq	Lifting Box	Small		>2kg	1m/s	QR Codes, arm on base	2 Diff
Adept Tech.			132lb		1.8m/s	Batteries=19hrs, traversable gap=15mm, multiple payload platforms, LIDAR, contact	2 Diff
Vehicle Tech. (various models)	Platform	42x28" 86-48"	500-5500lb	1000- 20000lb	1-2m/s	Wireless controller, no high level functions provided	4 wheel Omni
Kuka	Transport /arm	Large				LIDAR/SICK, dockable	Many omni wheel
Kuka 2 OmniRob	Platform/ arm	1.2x0.7x0.6m	250kg	400kg	1m/s	LIDAR/SICK, SLAM	4 wheel omni
Clearpath Husky	Rugged Platform	0.99x0.67m	50kg	75kg	1m/s	Outdoors	4 diff
Hannover Messe	Platform	0.58x0.7x0.6 m	60kg	50kg	1.4m/s	15mm max step, 24 ultrasonic range, contact	diff
iRobot	Tele- Presence	Human					

