



Demining Robotics Case Study

METR 4202: Advanced Control & Robotics

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Lecture # 13 – Part 2

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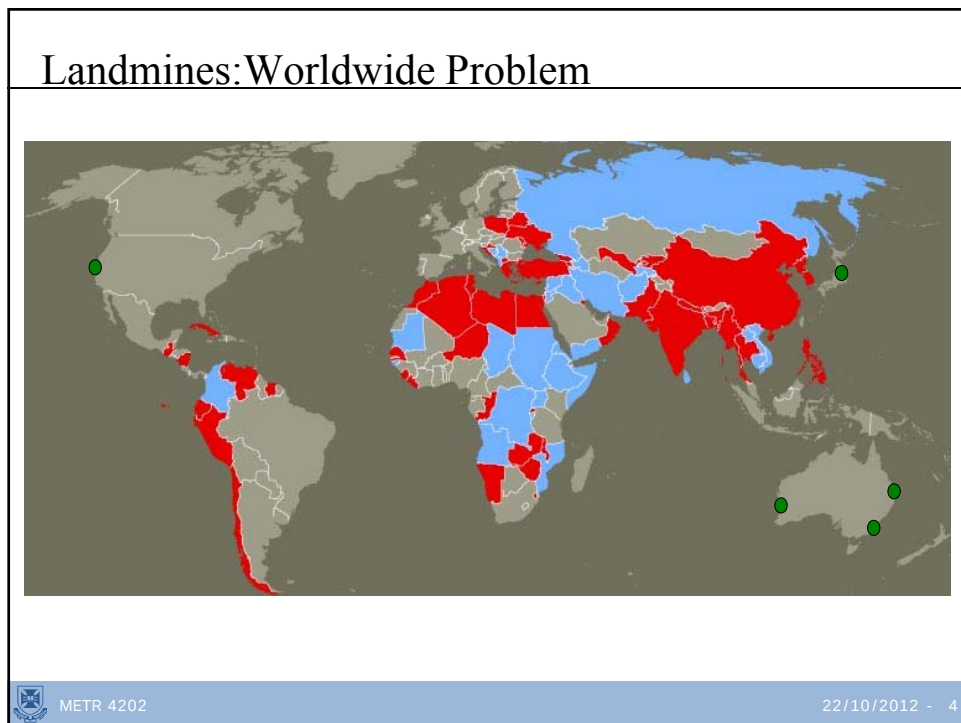


First Off: Bang Bang Control!

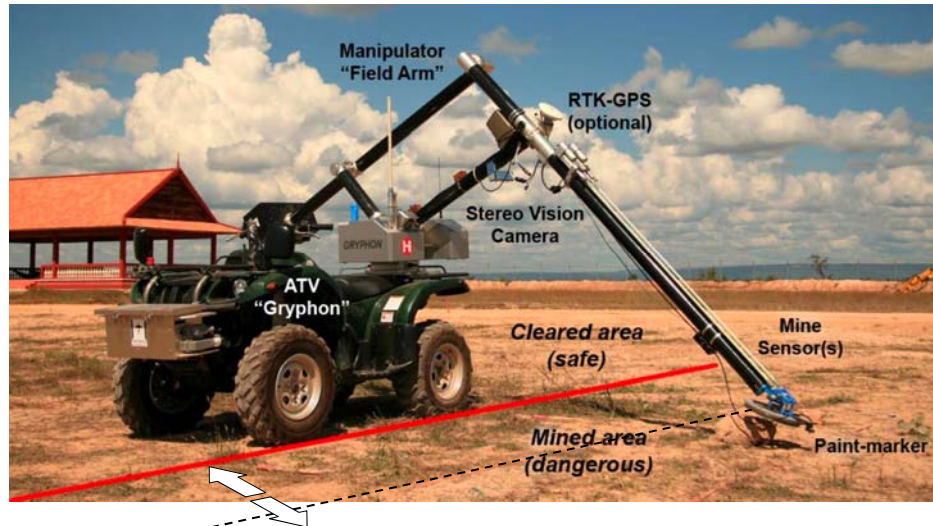


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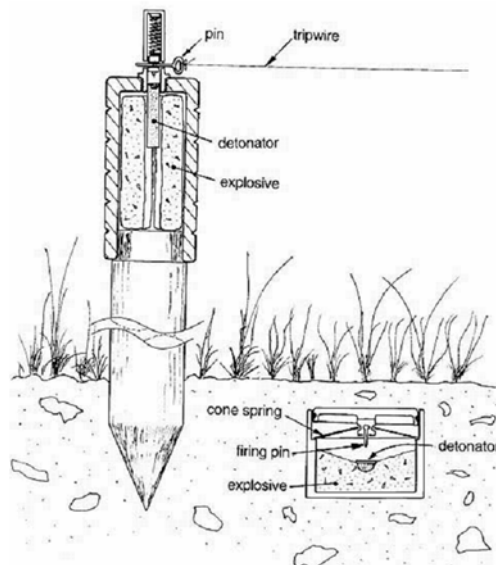
Gryphon: Mine Scanning Robot



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Generalized Mine & Placement



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(Antipersonnel) Landmines are Challenging

- Variable & Changing



- Terrain Diversity



- Counter-thwart mechanisms



- False Positive Rate >100:1



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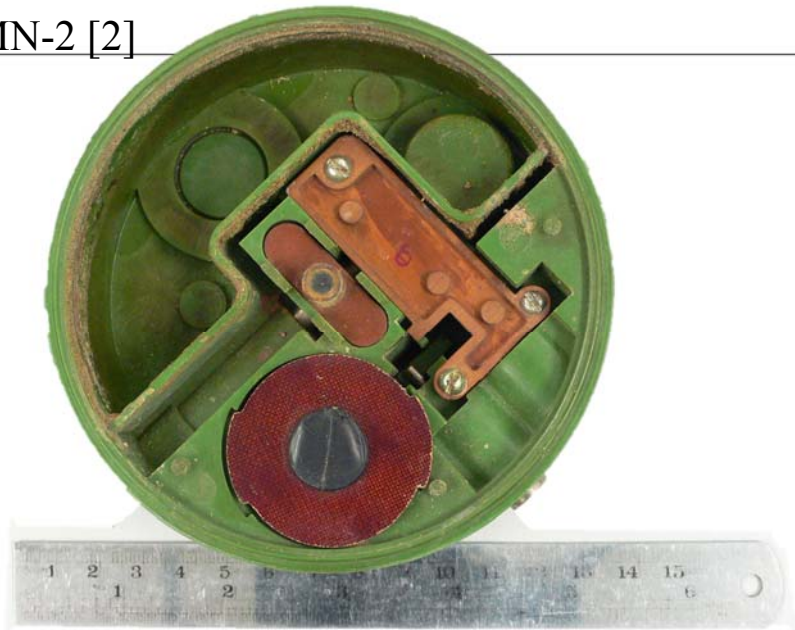
Ex: PMN-2 [1]



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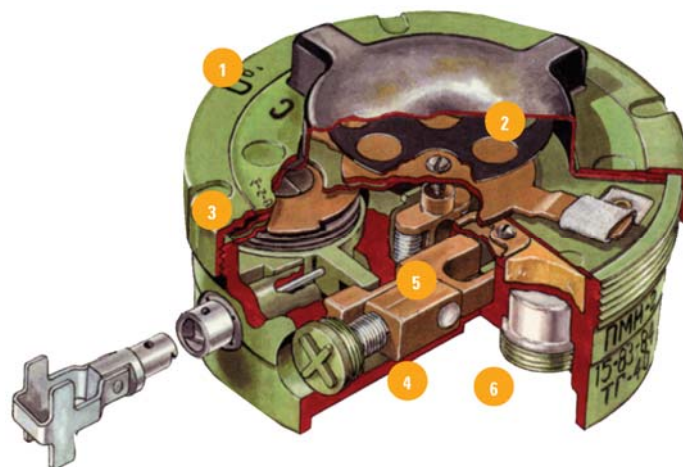
Ex: PMN-2 [2]



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Ex: PMN-2 [3]: Mechanically Intricate



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Land Mines: **Highly Variable**



- Little metal
∴ “High-sensitivity”
detectors / instruments
- **Highly Variable**
(Example: PMN-2):
 - 3-stage detonation
 - Anti-thwart
 - All mechanical
 - Poor construction
detectors / instruments
- ∴ Focus on **manipulating sensor** instead of
complex sensing ???,,,

Clearance & Breeching

	Humanitarian	Military
Detection	>98%	50-60%
Rate (m ² /day/person)	~ 200	~ 10,000
Conditions	Fair weather/daytime	All weather/24/7
Standards	Int. Mine Action Std.	Army Field Manuals
Funding (source)	Gov't, NGOs	Military

- Breeching: Line
- Demining: Area
→ International Mine Action Standards (IMAS)

Humanitarian Demining Process



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Humanitarian Demining Process

1. Level 1: Specification
 - Rough minefield location
2. Level 2: Clearing
 - Heavy machines
(e.g., flails, grinders, rollers, ploughs, and sifters)
 - ~ 90% clearance
3. Level 3: Confirmation



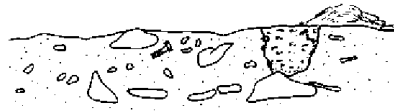
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Level-3: Confirmation



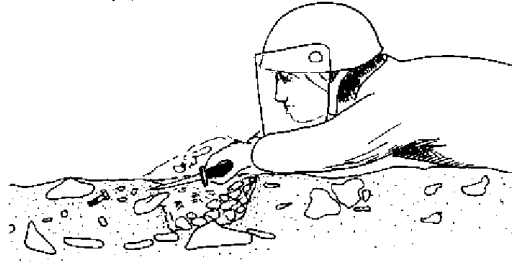
Step (a)



Step (c)



Step (b)



Step (d)



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Sensor Mobility Is Critical



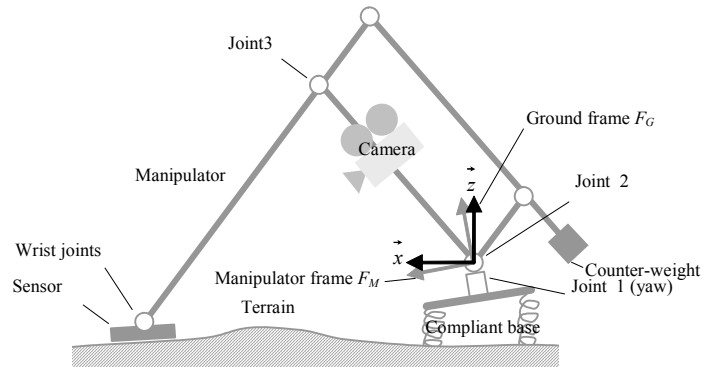
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Back to Gyrphon ...



Gryphon Schematic



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Gryphon: Comparison to other tracked robots

Control Robustness ("Autonomy")



Mechanical Robustness



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Demining Terrain Not Always “Rough”



Unexploded BLU-97



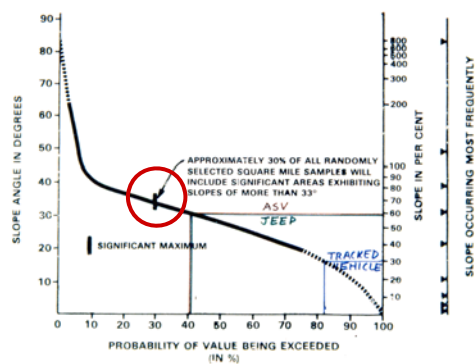
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Remote Terrain: 30% > 30° Grade



PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE OF SLOPES



Source: US Army, Logistical Vehicle Off-Road Mobility, 1967 (c/o Prof. K. Waldron)

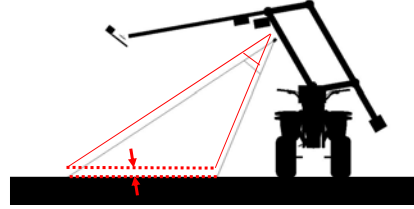
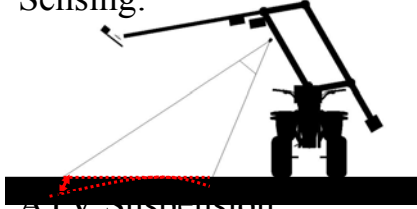


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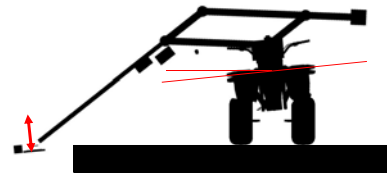
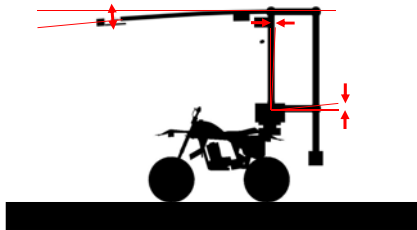
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Multiple Inaccuracies

- Sensing:



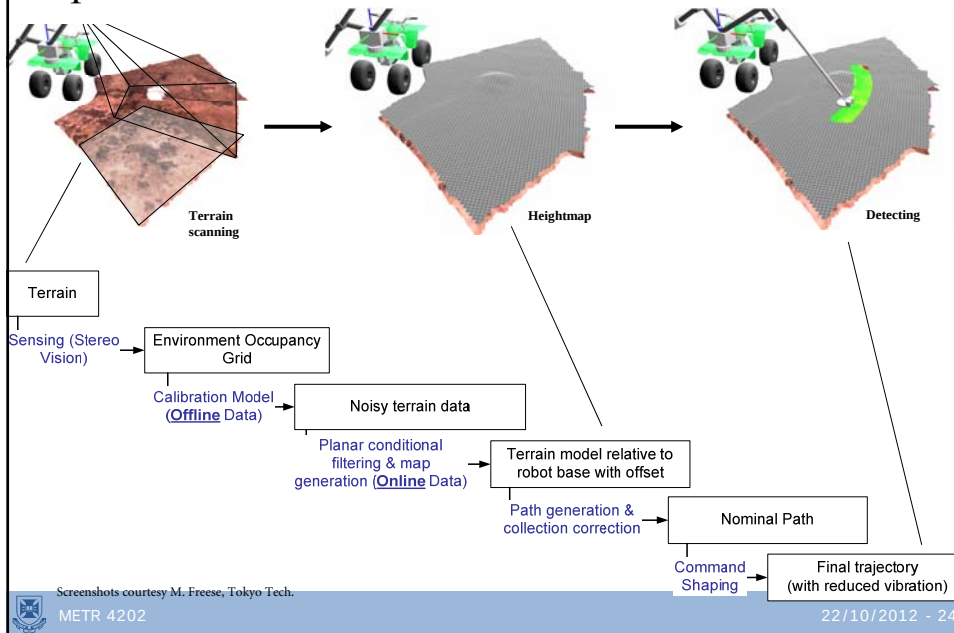
- ATV Suspension:



Screenshots courtesy M. Freese, Tokyo Tech.
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Operational Overview



Screenshots courtesy M. Freese, Tokyo Tech.
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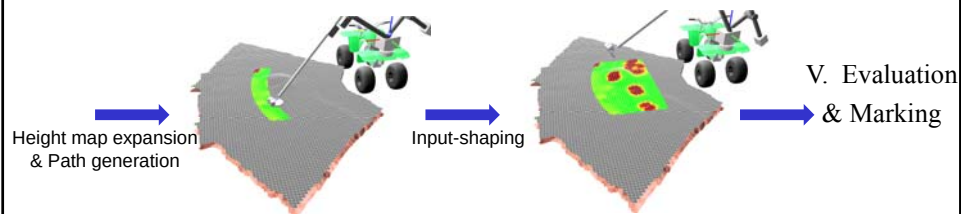
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Terrain Modeling & Following Overview

- I. Terrain Mapping
- II. Terrain Model



- III. Path Generation
- IV. Scanning

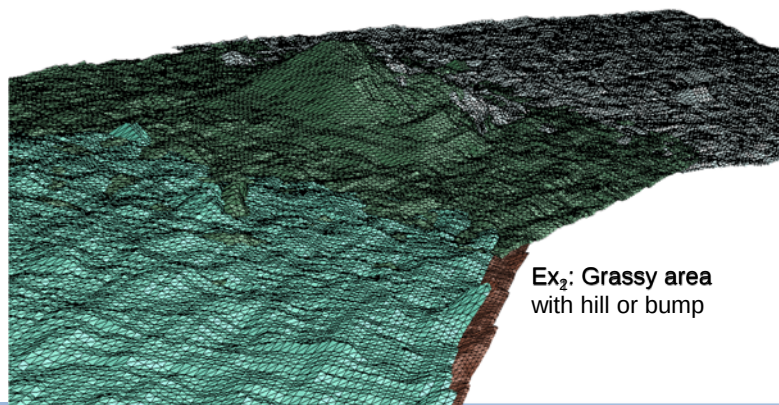
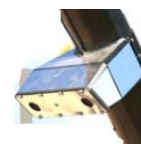


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Terrain Mapping

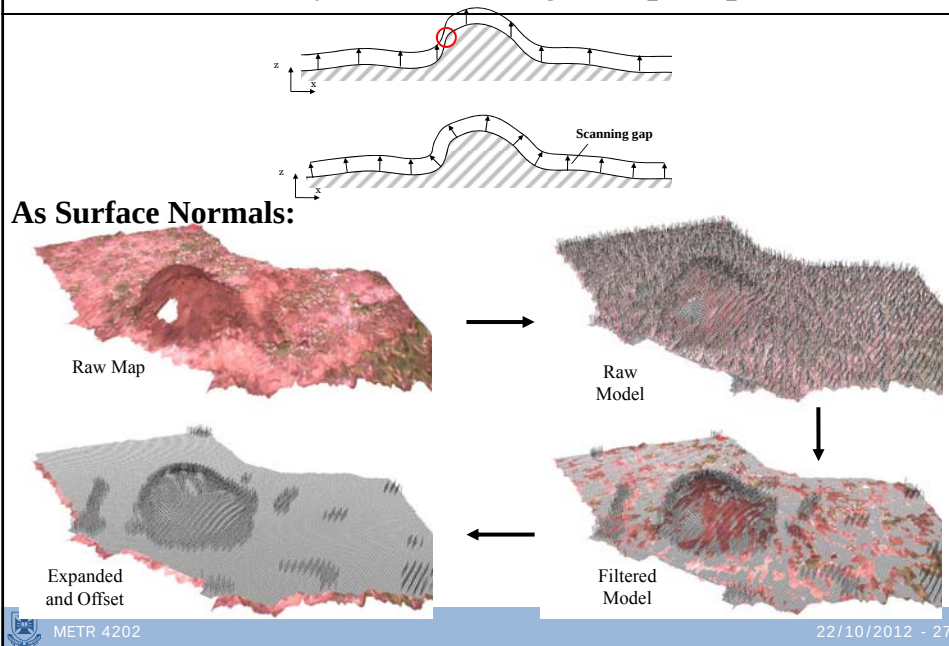
- Stereo depth maps (Pont Gray Bumblebee)
- Kinematic calibration corrections



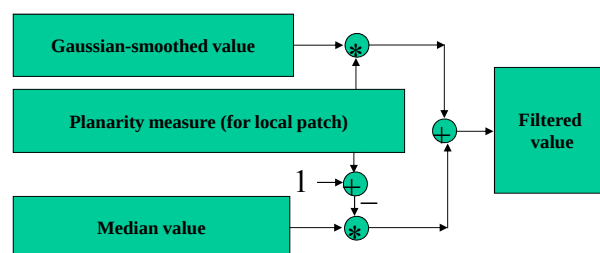
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Terrain Geometry Model: Heightmap Expansion

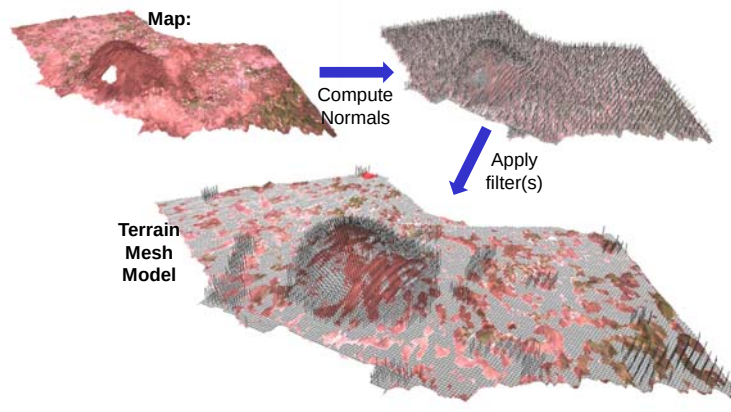


Terrain Geometry Model: Conditional Planar Filter



- Planarity: Found from plane eq. residuals for a surface patch
- Filter type and strength varied based on this
- Goal: Reduce noise without feature degradation

Terrain Map → Model: Conditional Planar Filter

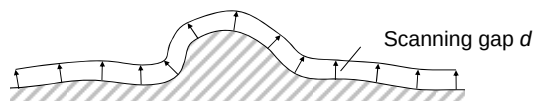


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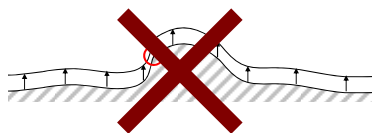
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Map → Model (II): Height Map Expansion

- Envelope expansion:
 - $F_{\text{env}} = F_{\text{terr}} + \text{scanning gap } \dots$



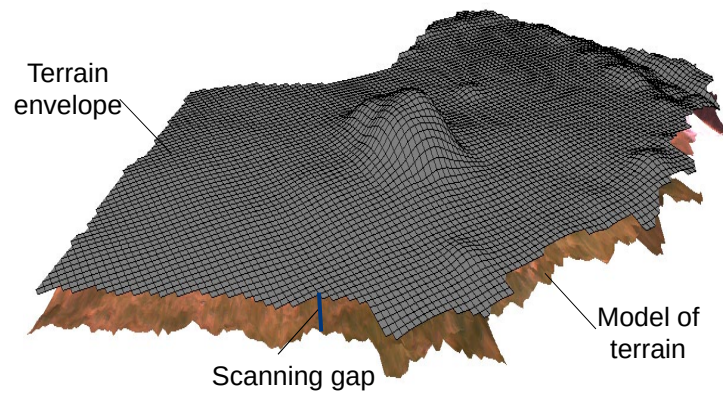
- Performed along the normals, more than vertical axis addition:



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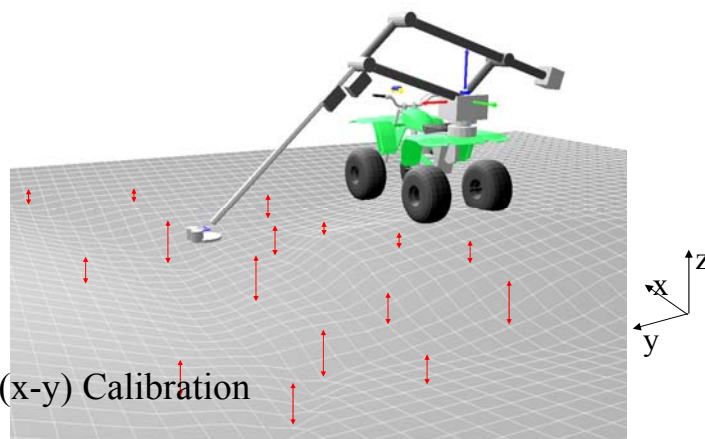
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Map → Model (III): Height Map Expansion



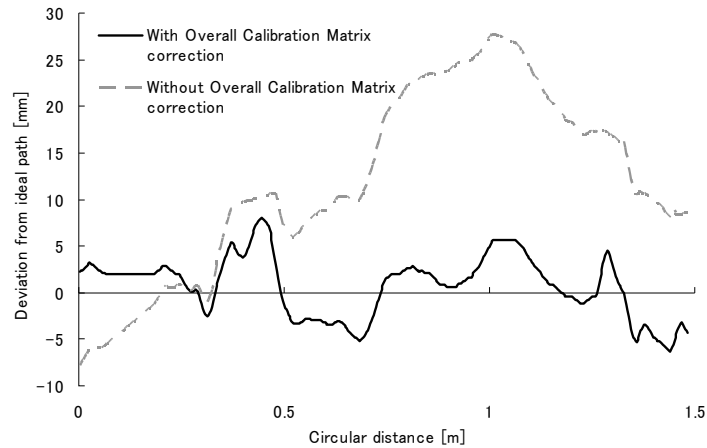
Calibration Model

- Height (z) Calibration:



- Plane (x-y) Calibration

Effect of Overall Calibration Matrix

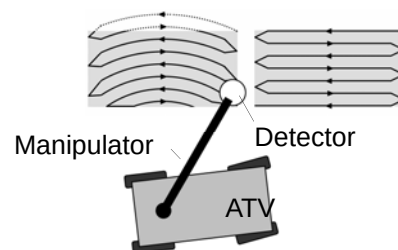


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Path Generation

- x-y: Scanning Scheme
- Joint-space/Work-space?
- Reduce excess work ...
- z: Terrain Sampling (z)
- Sample corresponding point based on the local patch & normals



$$z_{path} = f_{env}(x_{path}, y_{path})$$

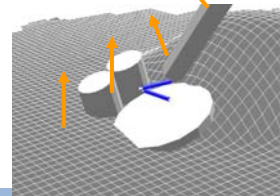
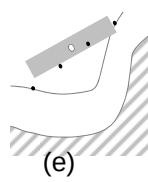
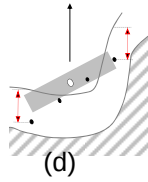
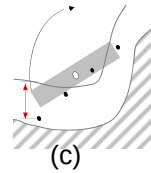
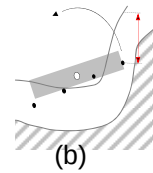
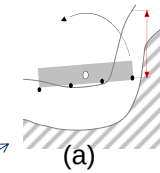
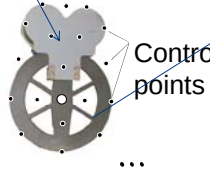


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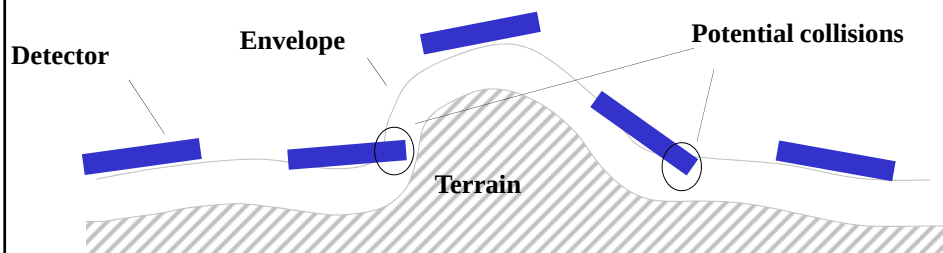
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Path Generation (II)

- Orientation: Advanced Terrain Following

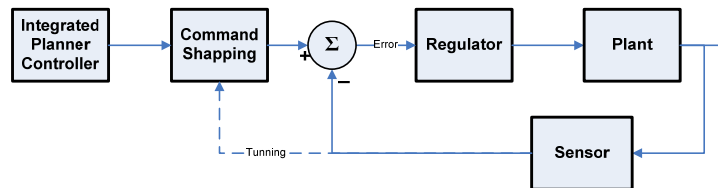


Contour Following



Robust Control:

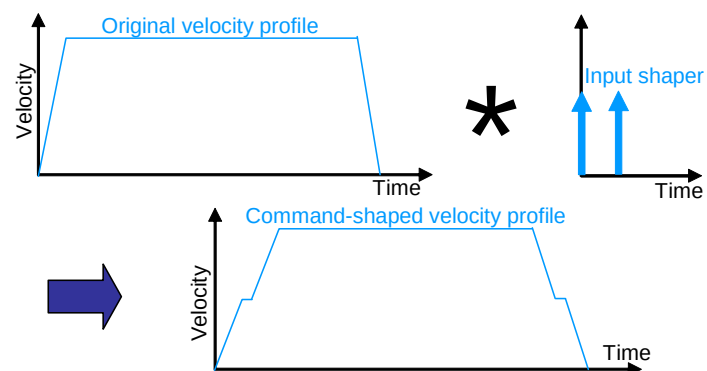
Command Shaping for Vibration Reduction



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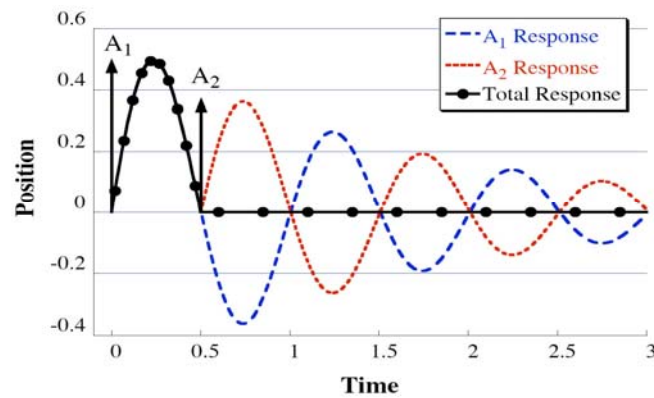
Command Shaping



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Command Shaping in Position Space



Command Shaping:

Zero Vibration and Derivative

$$K = e^{\left(\frac{-\zeta\pi}{\sqrt{1-\zeta^2}}\right)} \quad i = 1, 2$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_i \\ t_i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{(1+K)^2} & \frac{2K}{(1+K)^2} & \frac{K^2}{(1+K)^2} \\ 0 & \frac{T_d}{2} & T_d \end{bmatrix}$$

For Gryphon:

		At $\rho_0=1.5$ [m]	At $\rho_0=3.0$ [m]
Axis 1	ω	2.32	1.81
	ζ	0	0
Axis 2 & 3	ω	3.3	3.0
	ζ	0	0

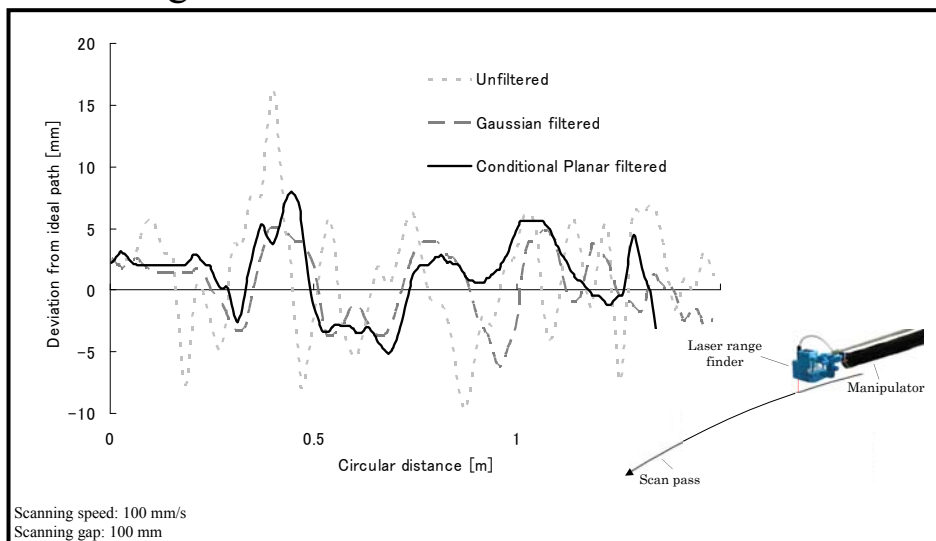
Terrain Modeling: Find a good model to characterize



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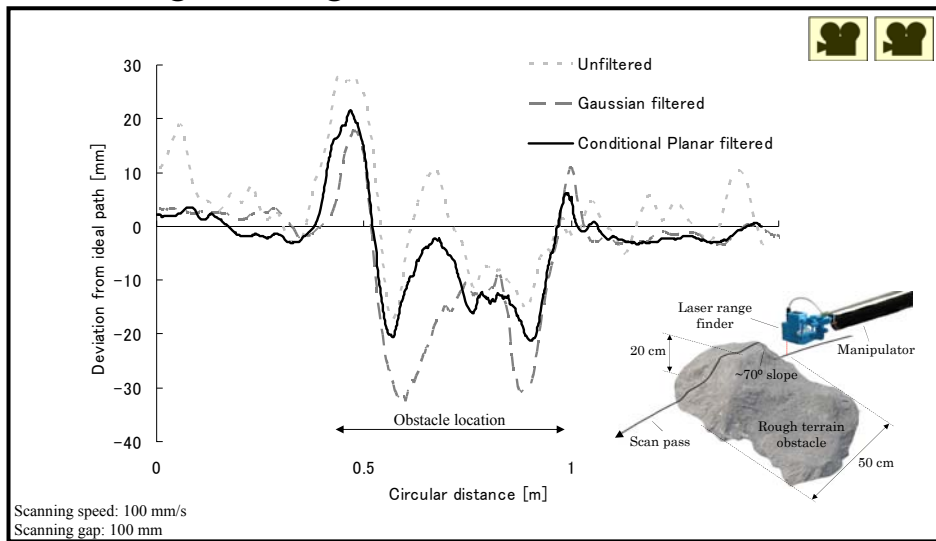
Scanning on ~ Level Terrain - Measurements



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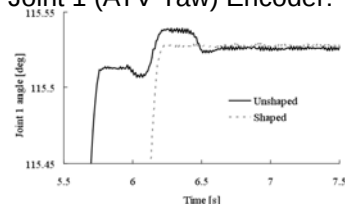
Scanning on Rough Terrain - Measurements



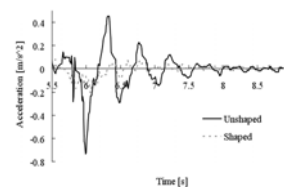
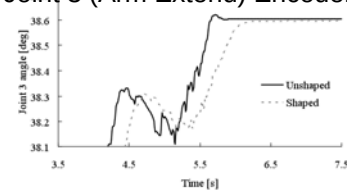
Command Shaping Tests: Step-Response

- Reduced Joint Encoder Vibration
- Reduced Tip Acceleration

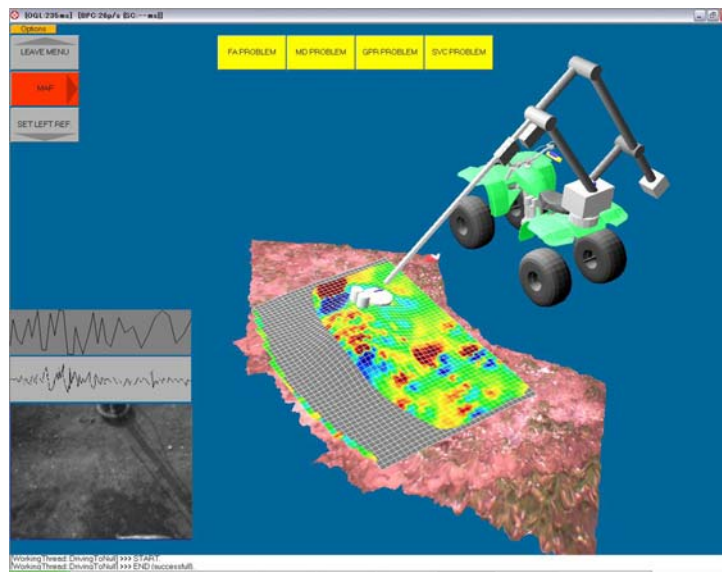
Joint 1 (ATV Yaw) Encoder:



Joint 3 (Arm Extend) Encoder:



High-Level Control Software



Detector Imaging

- Targets



PMA-1A

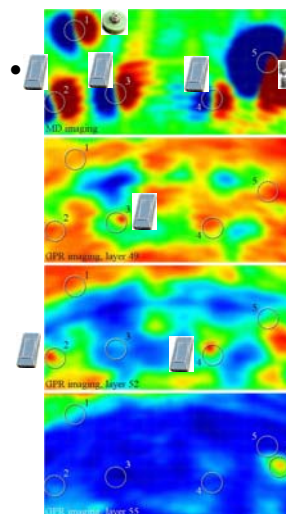


PMA-2

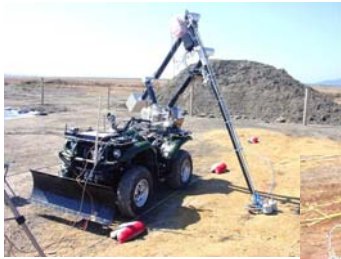


Fragment

Target#	Target type	Depth [cm]	MD	GPR
1	PMA-2	5	Yes	No
2	PMA-1A	12.5	Yes	Yes
3	PMA-1A	12.5	Yes	Yes
4	PMA-1A	12.5	Yes	Yes
5	Fragment	5	Yes	No
6	Stone	~10	No	Yes



Extensive Field Tests



2005: Kagawa, Japan



2006: Benkovac, Croatia



2007: Siem Reap, Cambodia



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Gryphon: Field Tests in Croatia & Cambodia



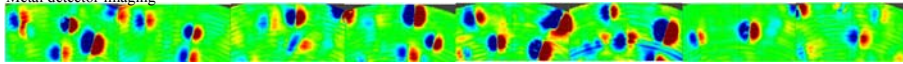
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February 2006: Tests in Croatia



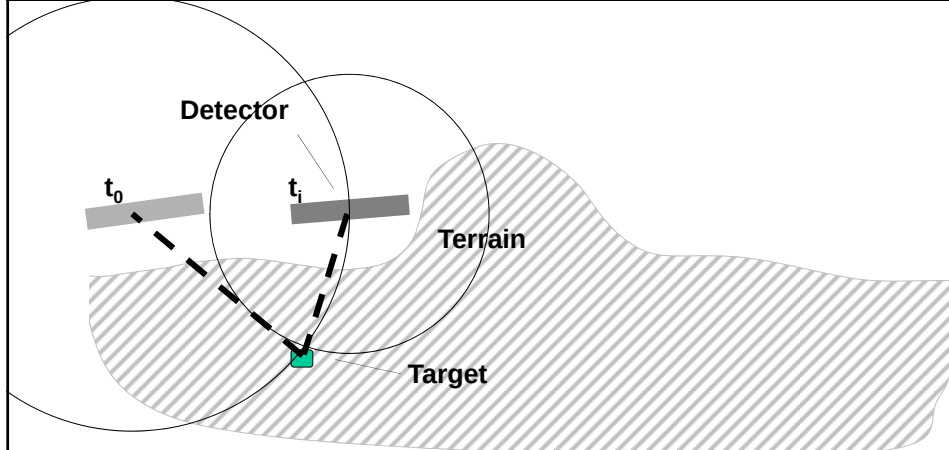
Metal detector imaging



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Terrain & Estimation



- IF we know terrain $\rightarrow$ Triangulation
- IF we know depth $\rightarrow$ SNR gives terrain “characteristic”
- $\rightarrow$ Estimate both simultaneously ($\rightarrow$ solution up to scale)



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End on a “Bang, Bang”...



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A Better (Controlled) “Bang Bang”



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Robotics, State-Space and The Meaning of Life



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Seeing is forgetting the name of the thing one sees



What is it?

- “A Coca Cola Can”
- 1122q3134234232342
- (SIFT descriptor in HEX)
- (The PHOTID)
- (The Filename)
- ...



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Robotics & Uncertainty

- University:
 - Critical questioning
 - Open exchange of ideas
 - Among equal participants.
- Corporatocracy:
 - Ruled by control freaks
 - Behavior modification
 - works best on dependent, powerless, infantilized, bored and institutionalized people (which is almost inimical to ↑)
 - Be careful of being overworked
- There are peddlers of uncertainty
 - They want you to be afraid
 - Thus, they “sell fear”
 - Yes, “They live for your schadenfreude”
- Insurance lets you risk and balance uncertainty
- Et Tu?



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UQ Robotics: Dynamic Systems in Motion

Diverse international research group

Hanna Kurniwati

(NUS/MIT)

Paul Pounds

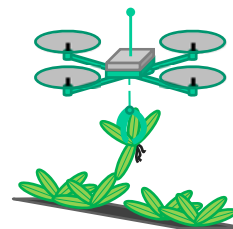
(ANU/Vale)

Surya Singh

(Stanford/Syd)



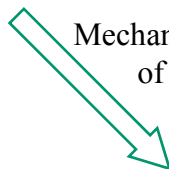
Aerial Systems



Bio-inspired Systems



Mechanics of motion



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