

Graduate School of Information, Production and Systems (IPS), Waseda University

Introduction of Bio-Robotics and Human-Mechatronics Laboratory

Bio-Robotics and Human-Mechatronics Laboratory
 Graduate School of Information, Production and Systems, Waseda University
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2014.02 - Peking University and Beijing Institute of Technology, Beijing, China

Outline

- **Introduction**
 - Biographical Information, BR&HM Laboratory
- **Recent activities**
 - **Preliminary-Announcement of Robot's Intention**
 - To indicate **Direction** and **Speed**, Comparing **Display** with **Voice**
 - **Step-On Interface (SOI)**
 - **Bilateral** Interaction via Projected Screen, **Mobile Robot** Operation
 - **Friendly Amusing Mobile (FAM) function**
 - Playing "Light" Tag, Image stepping-on Recognition
 - **Walking Trainer Mobile Robot System**
 - Trainee with Walker/Crutch, **Customizable** Trajectory Design
 - **Image-projective Desktop Arm Trainer (IDAT)**
 - **Hand-eye coordination** Training, Hardware/Software Design
 - **Touch Interaction**
 - **Hand/Fingertips/Touch** Detection, Virtual Keyboard/Xylophone
 - **Mobile Robot Companion**
 - **Human Detection** + **Human Following** + Remote Operation
- **Closing remarks**

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Biographical Information

- **1985 B.S., Mechanical Engineering, Waseda University**
 "Development of articulated manipulator aiming at force control"
 (Supervised by late Prof. I.Kato)
- **1987 M.S., Mechanical Engineering, Waseda University**
 "Basic theory of multi d.o.f. compliance control on articulated manipulator"
 (Supervised by late Prof. I.Kato)
- **1987-99 Corporate Research & Development Center, Toshiba Corporation**
 - Research on robots for specialized operations
 - Developing mechatronics systems using robotic technologies
- **1998 Ph.D., Mechanical Engineering, Waseda University**
 "Research on structure and control of working robot in a narrow space"
 (supervised by Prof. S.Sugano)
- **1999-2010 Associated Professor, Shizuoka University**
 - Education and Research on Bio-Robotics and Human-Mechatronics
 - Invited Professor (2003), LSC - CNRS, Evry France, Visiting Fellow (2002), Shizuoka Industrial Research Institute, Shizuoka Japan, etc.
- **2010- Professor, Waseda University**
 - Research and Education on Bio-Robotics and Human-Mechatronics

Ichiro Kato 1926-1994

TOSHIBA Leading Innovation

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Bio-Robotics and Human-Mechatronics Laboratory

- Various themes between **human** and **mechatronics systems** (robots and other systems)
- To make mechanical systems more **friendly / useful** for users
- Developing **new** functions and producing **real-world** systems
- **Integrating** various knowledge and technologies **into systems** (selection / combination are based on engineering sense)
- Work on elemental technologies by ourselves if desired

Human

Robotics & Mechatronics
 Mechanics (dynamics, ...) Electronics (circuits, ...) Control (software, ...)

Bio-Engineering
 Ergonomics (Interface, ...) Medicine & biology (physiology, biomimetics, ...) Psychology (emotion, ...)

Better interaction / relationship between human and robots

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Study subject

- **Remote Operation System of Mobile Robot**
 - **Combination Control** of Manual Operation and Autonomous Behavior
 - **Environmental Map** around remote robot --- Line&Hollow / Cell&Hollow
 - **Operational Interface** --- J/S, Eye-gaze, HMD+gaze, Voice, Touch screen
- **Preliminary-Announcement of Robot's Intention**
 - **Method and Apparatus** to indicate **Direction** and **Speed** --- 4 kinds / 2 types
 - Comparing **Display** Announcement with **Voice** Announcement
- **Form and Movement of Human-Synergetic Robot**
 - **Informative Kinesics** on Human-Machine System --- design theory
 - **Informative Motion** as Motion Media to incorporate information
- **Interaction with Human-Symbiotic Robot**
 - **Step-on Interface (SOI)** --- bilateral interface via projected screen
 - **Friendly Amusing Mobile (FAM)** --- playing "light" tag
- **Measurement and Analysis of Human Movement**
 - **Lifting of Heavy Weight** --- movement evaluation and optimal posture
- **Systematic and Effective Learning Method on Mechatronics**
 - Using LEGO-Mindstorm and Sony-AIBO

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Outline

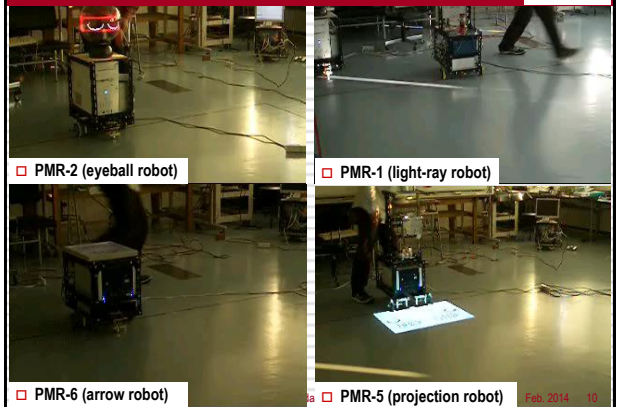
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Preliminary-Announcement of Robot's Intention

- Intention declaration function
 - Difficult to estimate robot's function/ability/operation by appearance
 - Danger on contact and collision
 - ▶ preliminary-announcement = direction of movement and speed of movement
 - State at some future time
 - Continuously from present to future time
 - Lamp
 - Blowout
 - Light-ray
 - Projection
-
- Exhibited at 2005 IREX in Tokyo International Exhibition Center (2005.11.30-12.03)

Demonstration

October 2005



PMR-5R

March 2007



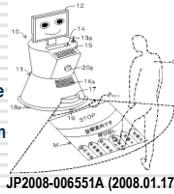
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Step-On Interface, SOI, for human-robot interaction

Step-On Interface (SOI) function

- Projected screen is used as a **bilateral interface**
 - Not only present information from equipment to user
 - But also deliver instruction from user to equipment
- Projector displays a **direction screen** on a surface
- Sensor (2D range scanner) detects and measures the **user's stepping** to specify the selected button



JP2008-006551A (2008.01.17)

Features

- Hands-free**
 - elderly, physically challenged, and users whose hands are full
- Anywhere**
 - without disturbing others and in noisy environment
- No special devices are needed**
 - user's own foot or stick (cane)
- Requires little preliminary preparation or special setup** --- by projection
- Can use figures / pictures in addition to letters**
 - language-independent, possible for beginners and non-native speakers
- Functions are easy to design, setup and change** --- in software

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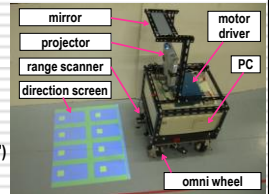
Human-Friendly Amusing Mobile Robot, HFAMRO-1

Omni-dir. mobile platform

- Omni-wheels (4)
- HD-gear DC-motor (4)

Step-On Interface (SOI)

- Projector**
 - Min. distance: 1200mm
 - Screen size: W730 x D550mm (36")
- Mirror**
 - W225 x D125 mm
- Range scanner**
 - Area: 240deg / 682step (0.35deg/step)
 - Distance: 20 - 4095mm
 - PC acquires data every 100ms



Size	W450 - D450 - H960 mm
Weight	46.7 kg
Speed	max. 0.22m/s, 0.87rad/s
PS	AC100V

Exhibited at 2007 iREX in Tokyo International Exhibition Center (2007.11.28-12.01)



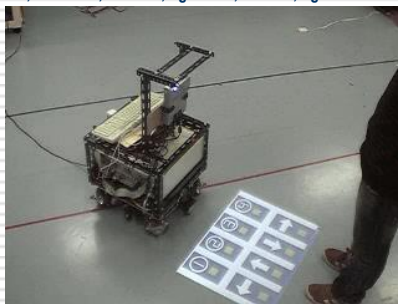
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HFAMRO-1 movement (1)



Basic movement

- Forward, backward, left-shift, right-shift, left turn, right turn



March 2007

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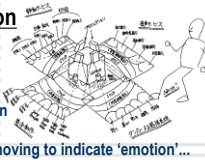
Friendly Amusing Mobile (FAM) function

FAM (Friendly Amusing Mobile) function

- Robots dynamically interact with users

Play tag

- Play tag with "light", similar to 'shadow' tag
- User pursues robot and steps on button on screen
- Robot responds as to the button
 - by playing game, providing with information, moving to indicate 'emotion'...



Game: step on animal's tail

- Scenario**
 - Animal's head and tail are displayed
 - Moves characteristically, cocking head and wagging tail
 - Stop, cry out, and show anger, when caught up / stepped
- Technical aspect**
 - Self-contained mobile robot, independent without movement restriction
 - Playing tag with "light" function



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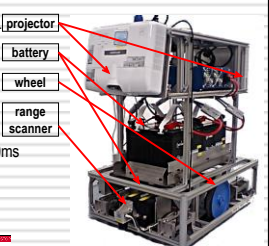
Human-Friendly Amusing Mobile Robot, HFAMRO-2

Two-wheel drive mobile platform

- D200-wheel (2), DC-motor (2)

Step-On Interface (SOI)

- Projector**
 - L560mm, W850 x H640mm
- Range scanner**
 - 0.35/240deg, 20 - 5695mm, every 100ms



Power source

- Battery (mobile platform / SOIs)
- External AC100V cable

Application

- Stepping animal tail
- Stamping bomb fuse
- Stepping target footprint

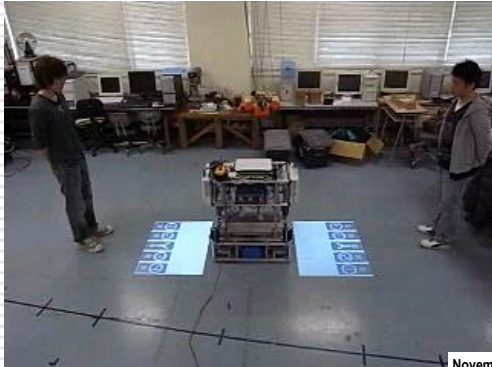


Features	Specifications
Size	L700 - W520 - H810 mm
Weight	120 kg
Max. speed	1.0 m/s, 360 deg/s
Power source	Battery (40 min) / AC100V

Exhibited at 2009 iREX in Tokyo International Exhibition Center (2009.11.25-11.28)

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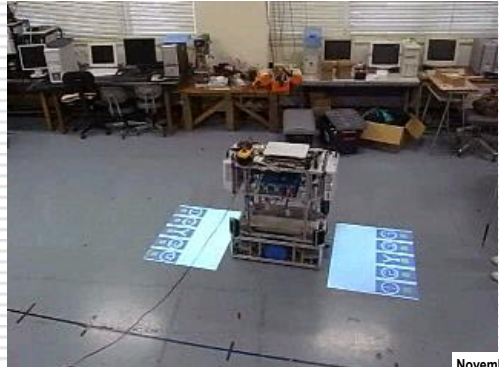
Basic movement (from both sides)



November 2009

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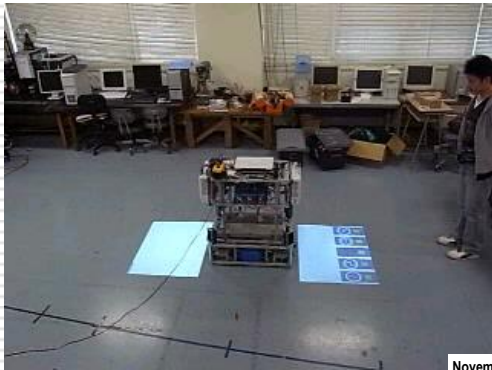
Basic movement (using stick)



November 2009

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Basic movement (work with announcement func.)



November 2009

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To realize playing tag (1) Cutoff animation

□ Cutoff animation

■ Tail

- Landscape-oriented BMP image arranging 14 pictures showing instantaneous states
- Changing appointed place using a timer



■ Head

- Ordinary expression with cocking while moving
- Anger expression with loud cry when stepped

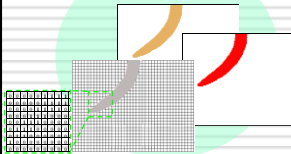


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To realize playing tag (2) Image stepped-on recognition

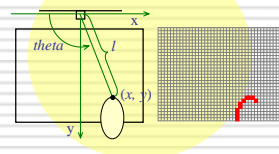
□ Detection scope setup

■ Scope matrix



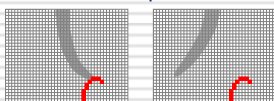
□ Users step detection

■ Obstacle matrix



□ Tail stepped recognition

- For 0.5s after step detection



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Stepping on animal's tail (dog - fast)

□ Animal selection

- Dog / Cat / Pig

□ Start moving

- Cocking head
- Wagging tail
- Panting

□ Catch up with / step on tail

- Stop immediately
- Loud cry
- Anger expression

□ Removed

- Start again

□ Kept for a while

- Shake itself loose

□ Get away

- Turn around
- Call for

□ Come close

- Start again

□ Stop button

- Initial screen




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Stamping bomb fuse (success)

- **Fuse**
 - Spark at end
 - Swinging
- **User**
 - Stamp on spark
 - 15 times in 45 s
- **Moves**
 - Playing Background music
 - Showing time left / remaining num. to stamp
- **Crash sound**
 - When hits spark
- **As time passes**
 - Moves faster
 - Fuse shorter
 - Pick up tempo

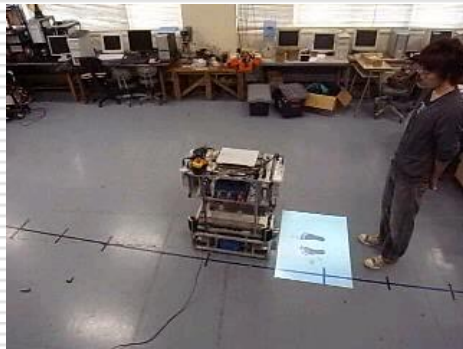


November 2009

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Stepping footmark (gait training)

- **Make trainee**
 - Strong desire to commit rehabilitation of walking
- **Initial screen**
 - Two marks of both feet
- **Session starts**
 - User puts feet
 - Makes sound, move forward, display mark
- **Sequential presentation**
 - User puts foot
 - Makes sound, move forward, display the other
- **Get away**
 - Sound to call for



November 2009

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Play "light" tag


- **Requirement**
 - Sense --- Visual contact
 - Brain --- Cognition and judgment
 - Body --- Mobility
- **Expected effect**
 - Maintenance
 - Training
 - Recovery

Human physical function and cognitive abilities
- **Foot-eye coordination training** → Walking trainer mobile robot
 - Stagnation in training due to difficulty/exhaustion relieved
 - by introducing game element
 - to motivate trainees and maintain their interests
 - Safety for "fall down" in trainee
 1. Smaller/lighter equipment, for trainee using walker
 2. Except mobility → specialized in upper body exercise

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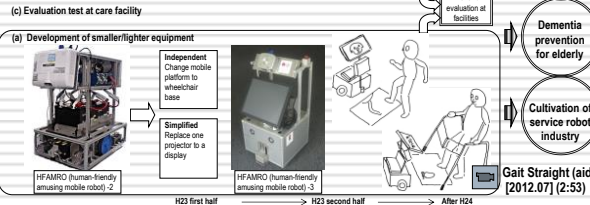
HFAMRO-3: Function maintenance and recovery exercis

(b) Development of training method



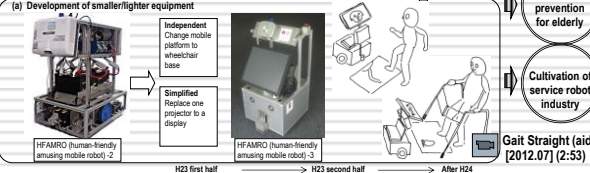
Tail (cat) [2011.11] (1:35)
Bomb (suc) [2011.11] (0:50)

(c) Evaluation test at care facility



Independence support for disabled
Dementia prevention for elderly
Cultivation of service robot industry

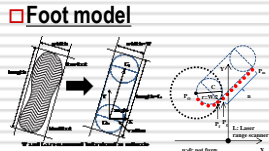
(a) Development of smaller/lighter equipment



HFAMRO (human-friendly amusing mobile robot) 2
H23 first half
HFAMRO (human-friendly amusing mobile robot) 3
H23 second half
After H24
Gait Straight (aid) [2012.07] (2:53)

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Walking trainer with customizable trajectory design

- **System structure**
 - Foot Detection
Define and calculate position and direction of a foot
 - Robot calculation
Calculate position and direction of mobile robot
- **Foot model**

- 1. **Trajectory designer**
<Teaching> Use mobile robot to track and record tutor's steps and walking trajectory using laser range scanner.
- 2. **Trajectory viewer**
Display recorded trajectory graphically and calculate data for analyzing on a computer.
- 3. **Mobile walking trainer**
<Training> Apply data calculated along trajectory on mobile robot for trainee's steps and evaluate training status.
- **Features**
 - Actual walking feeling for trainee
 - Can design trajectory suitable for different patient
 - A tutor walks and robot follows, applying into walking training

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Walking training test (1) Straight-line

July 2012

Teaching

- Tutor's feet sequence detected in *Trajectory Designer* while **teaching**

Training

- Trainee's feet sequence detected in *Mobile Walking Trainer* while **training**

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Walking training test (2) S-shape

July 2012

Teaching

- Tutor's feet sequence detected in *Trajectory Designer* while **teaching**

Training

- Trainee's feet sequence detected in *Mobile Walking Trainer* while **training**

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Image-projective Desktop Arm Trainer, IDAT

IDAT-1

- Reflection type
- W365-D470-H800mm
- 7.5kg (main body)
- Reflection mirror

IDAT-2

- Direct type
- W380-D380-H680mm
- 8.5kg (main body)
- Support mechanism

IDAT-3

- Built-in type
- W500-D160-H360mm
- 10.2kg (main body)
- Scanning RF

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Procedure for training

Parameter setting

- Sufficient WL
- Adjusted
- Even with both

Training

- To pat object

Result

- Stimulate will
- Rouse challenge

- By hand [2012.06] (2:45)
- By hand keeping on screen [2012.06] (2:45)
- By hand having pause [2012.06] (3:00)
- By hammer [2012.06] (2:41)

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Installation condition and screen size

Design constraint

- Can be installed on *standard 90-centimeter-wide desk*
- Used area is in *reachable depth and width by one hand*
- Bottom area to put elbows/opposite hand to support oneself

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Collision detection

- **Hand location**
 - Nearest data
 - Correction
 - To compensate for measuring error
 - To adjust to center of hand
- **Collision detection**
 - Trainee's hand with object
 - Whether hand location is on *hit zone* or not
 - Hit zone
 - Set on object (texture)
 - Difficulty adjustable by changing size

SD
SD*0.1
50mm
To compensate for measuring error
To adjust to center of hand

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Hand/Fingertips/Touch Detection

- **Procedure: RGB-D (Xtion)**
 1. Initialization of Xtion
 2. Set Background
 3. Hand Detection
 4. Fingertips Detection
 5. Touch Event Detection
- **Hand**
- **Fingertips**
- **Touch**
 - Fingertip's depth $\leq L - d$

Wrong Point

900mm 10mm
Xtion
Fingertip's depth
L
d
Desktop

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Touch event detection

Finger touch [2013.01] (1:12)

Spread all fingers
Fist
Palm
One Finger
Five fingertips
One fingertips

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Hand/mallet distinction + Touch speed detection

- **Virtual Piano**
- **Virtual Xylophone**

Virtual Piano [2013.10] (0:57)
Virtual Xylophone [2013.10] (0:52)

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Demonstration

Piano&Xylophone [2013.02] (3:00)

Submitted to ACM/IEEE HRI 2014 video session, but rejected...!!!

Bio-robotics & Human-mechantronics Lab. IPS, Waseda University Feb. 2014 42

Outline

- **Introduction**
 - Biographical Information, BR&HM Laboratory
- **Recent activities**
 - Preliminary-Announcement of Robot's Intention
 - To indicate Direction and Speed, Comparing Display with Voice
 - Step-On Interface (SOI)
 - Bilateral Interaction via Projected Screen, Mobile Robot Operation
 - Friendly Amusing Mobile (FAM) function
 - Playing "Light" Tag, Image stepping-on Recognition
 - Walking Trainer Mobile Robot System
 - Trainee with Walker/Crutch, Customizable Trajectory Design
 - Image-projective Desktop Arm Trainer (IDAT)
 - Hand-eye coordination Training, Hardware/Software Design
 - Touch Interaction
 - Hand/Fingertips/Touch Detection, Virtual Keyboard/Xylophone
 - Mobile Robot Companion
 - Human Detection + Human Following + Remote Operation

□ Closing remarks

Mobile robot companion

- **Human detection**
 - To solve the detection range problem
 - using laser range scanner
 - Data points clustering
 - Human position (ellipse fitting + Kalman filter)
- **Human following**
 - To solve the unlimited robot speed problem
 - with adaptive acceleration of robot movement
 - Speed stages: 1) increasing, 2) saturation, 3) decreasing
 - with obstacle avoidance
 - Temporary target point
- **Remote operation**
 - Mobile phone control
 - Java + Socket programming



Human detection

Result 1: rotating, walking, interrupted

Result 2: embrace

• **Result:** detection function reaches our needs.

• **Shortcoming:** limited search area to lock human

Shortcoming: once target lost, ...

Result

- An interrupter goes across [2013.09] (0:19)
- An interrupter walks parallel [2013.09] (0:13)
- Walk parallel and turn [2013.09] (0:21)
- Mobile phone control [2013.09] (1:31)

- TotalDemo10 [2014.02] (02:48)
- TotalDemo12 [2014.02] (01:40)

Robot detects and locks target human

Human Detection Function

Human Following Algorithm

Human Following Function

Obstacle Avoiding Function

Mobile Phone Remote Control

Two-wheel mobile robot

It is controllable

1. It follows human stable

2. It avoids obstacle

• **Result:** Control strategy proposed (detection function, following algorithm, remote control) can assist a mobile robot to follow human.

• **Short coming:** Data by single laser scanner is limited (only one surface depth)

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□ Closing remarks


Robotics / Humanics

- Various robots are announced in a big event and reported widely
- However, what will robots provide after losing such extraordinary?
- Robotics research and development lead us to consider **humanity** to confirm **human dignity**
- Learn about ourselves while implementing what we think is required and helpful for people in a robot
- We desire higher level of **human nature** and we cultivate **enriched humanness** while robotics research and development
- **Robotics is Humanics** (from engineering viewpoint)


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Introduction of Bio-Robotics and Human-Mechatronics Laboratory

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2014.02 - Peking University and Beijing Institute of Technology, Beijing, China

Bio-robotics & Human-mechatronics Lab. IPS, Waseda Univ. Feb. 2014 50