

# Space Robotics

## Guidance, Navigation and Control Challenges

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# Presentation Outline

- **Space manipulators**
  - introduction
  - flexible joint control
  - flexible link control
- **Mobile robots in Space**
- **Flying robots**

# Space manipulators vs Mobile robots

- ▣ Manipulators
- ▣ Mobile robots (rovers, autonomous ground)
- ▣ Flying and floating robots (UAV and spacecraft)

# Space-based Robots

- space robotic manipulators
  - can perform repetitive and lengthy tasks with reduced risk and improved performance
  - require less infrastructure than manned systems
    - ❖ no life support systems
- application examples
  - maintenance, repair, and assembly
  - spacecraft deployment and retrieval
  - extravehicular activity support
  - shuttle inspection



# Space-based Robots

- ❑ flexible links and joints
  - operational control challenges due to flexible effects, especially in the joints
  - link and joint flexibility effects introduce vibrations that can lead to instability when neglected in the control system design
- ❑ objectives
  - develop and validate advanced control systems for flexible joint space robotic manipulators

# Space-based Robots

## □ unresolved issues

- simple and efficient algorithms that account for practical limitations have yet to be developed
- applicability of existing control strategies to real-time space applications (no gravity, highly limited computational load) needs to be assessed
- performance validation should be done with large square trajectories (flexible effects are more noticeable → greater control challenge)

# Space-based Robots

- ❑ propose 4 control strategies for flexible joint space robots
- ❑ compare their respective performance while tracking a 12.6 m x 12.6 m square trajectory
- ❑ further Improvements
  - extend for robots with unknown/variable joint stiffness coefficients

# RMS, SSRMS and SPDM



# Remote Manipulator System (RMS)



# Remote Manipulator System (RMS)

## Canadarm1 or Shuttle arm

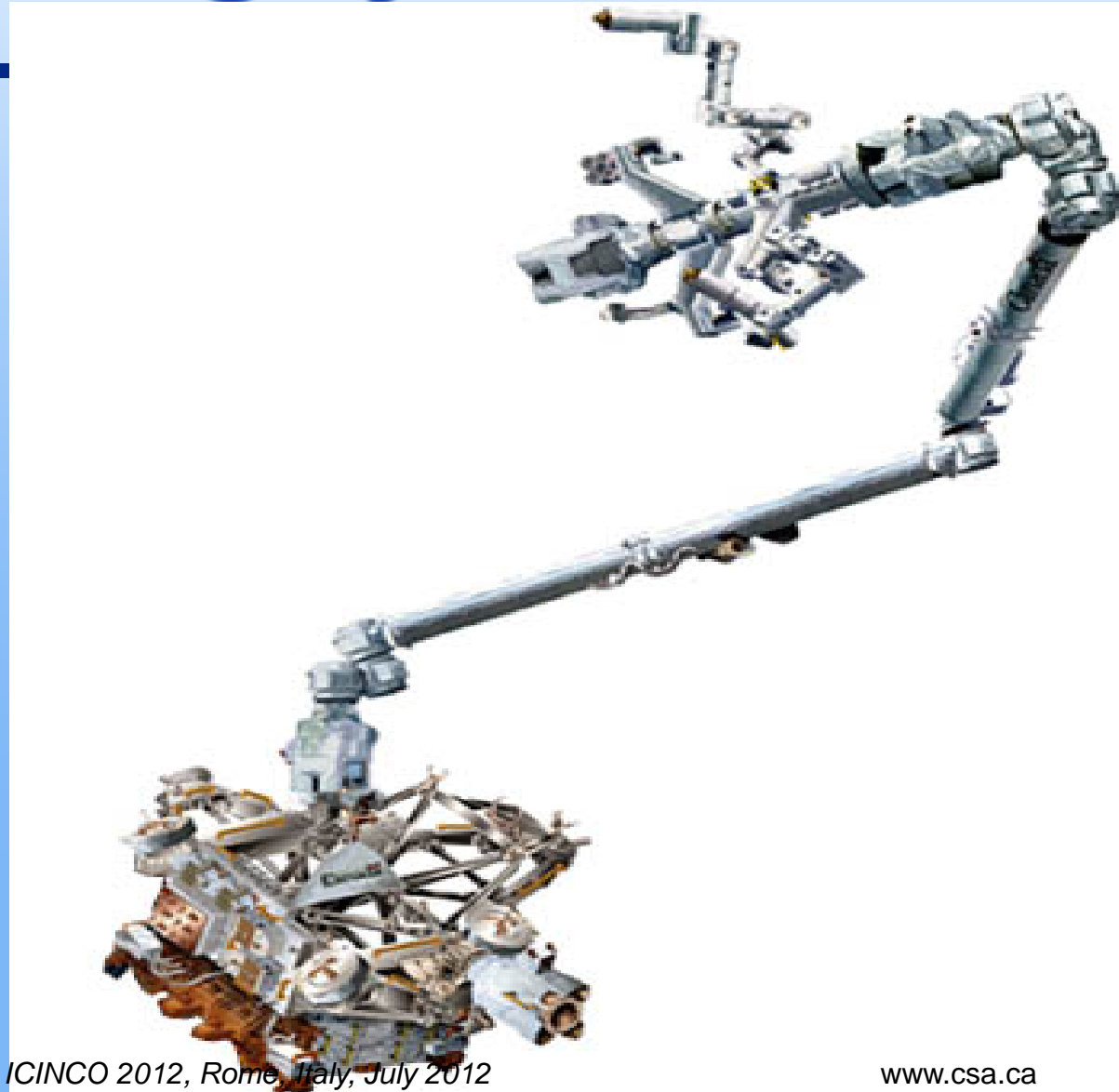
- ▣ 15.3 m long
- ▣ Weight 408 kg
- ▣ Diameter 38 cm
- ▣ Payload 29,500 kg

# Mobile Servicing System

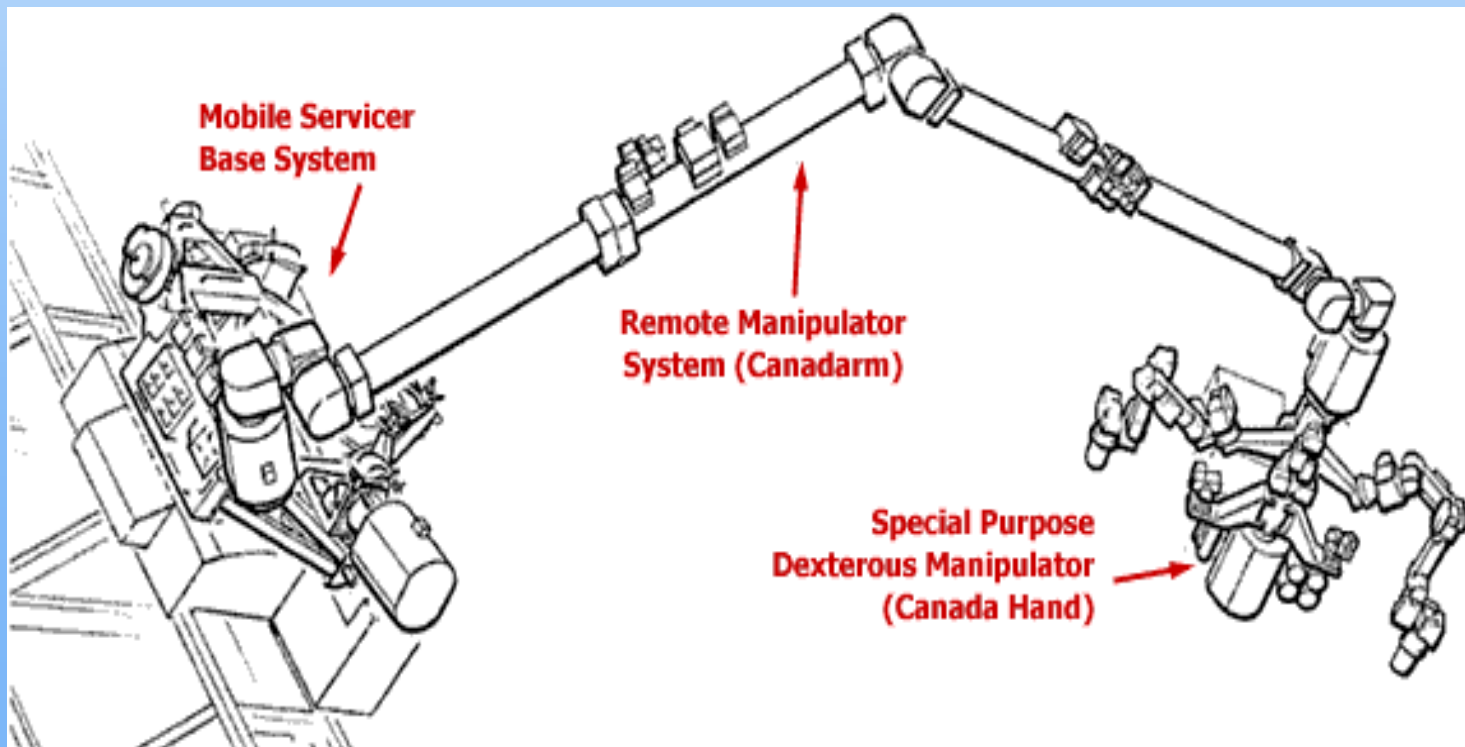
MBS

SSRMS

SPDM

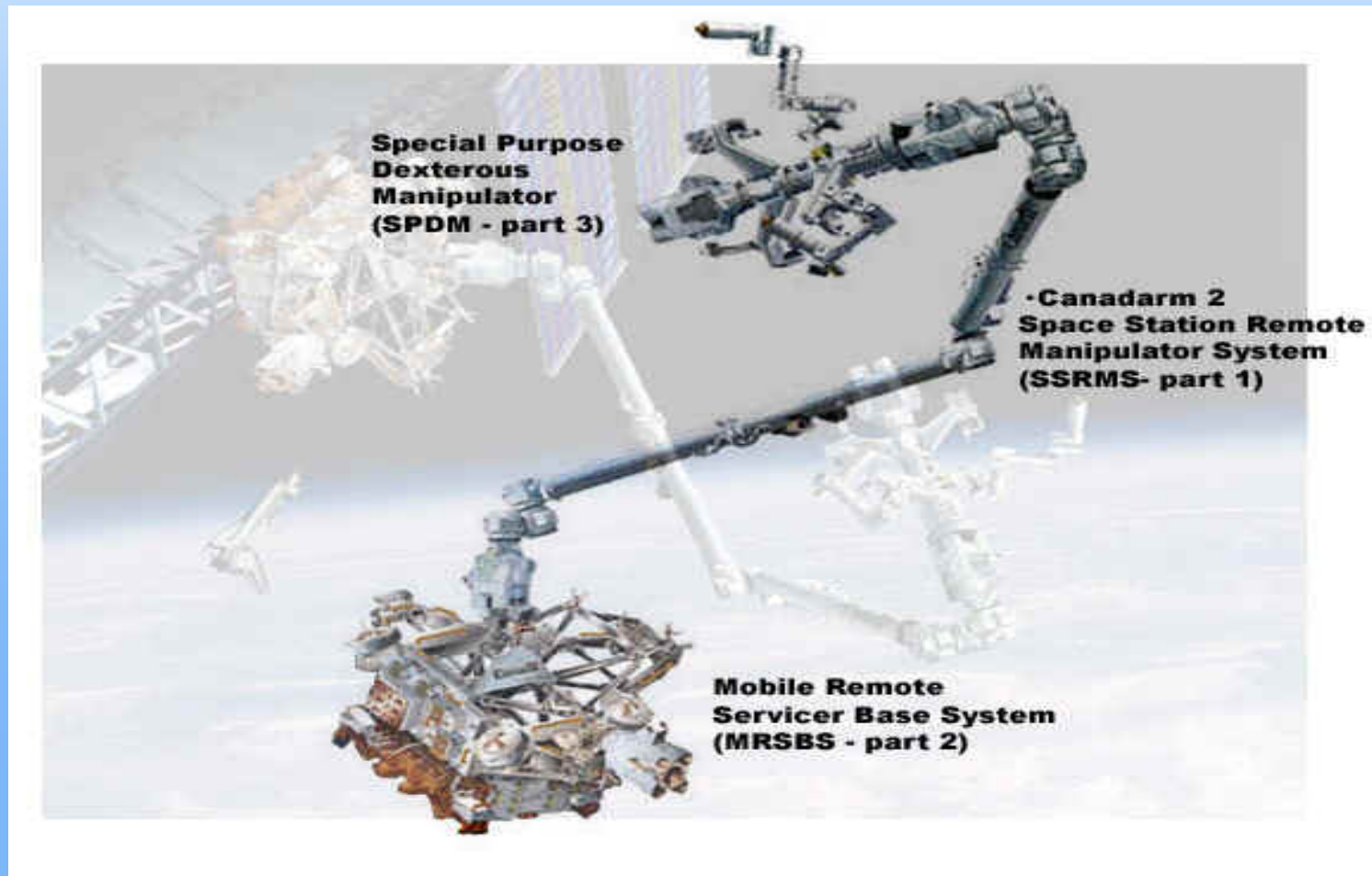


# Space Robotic System

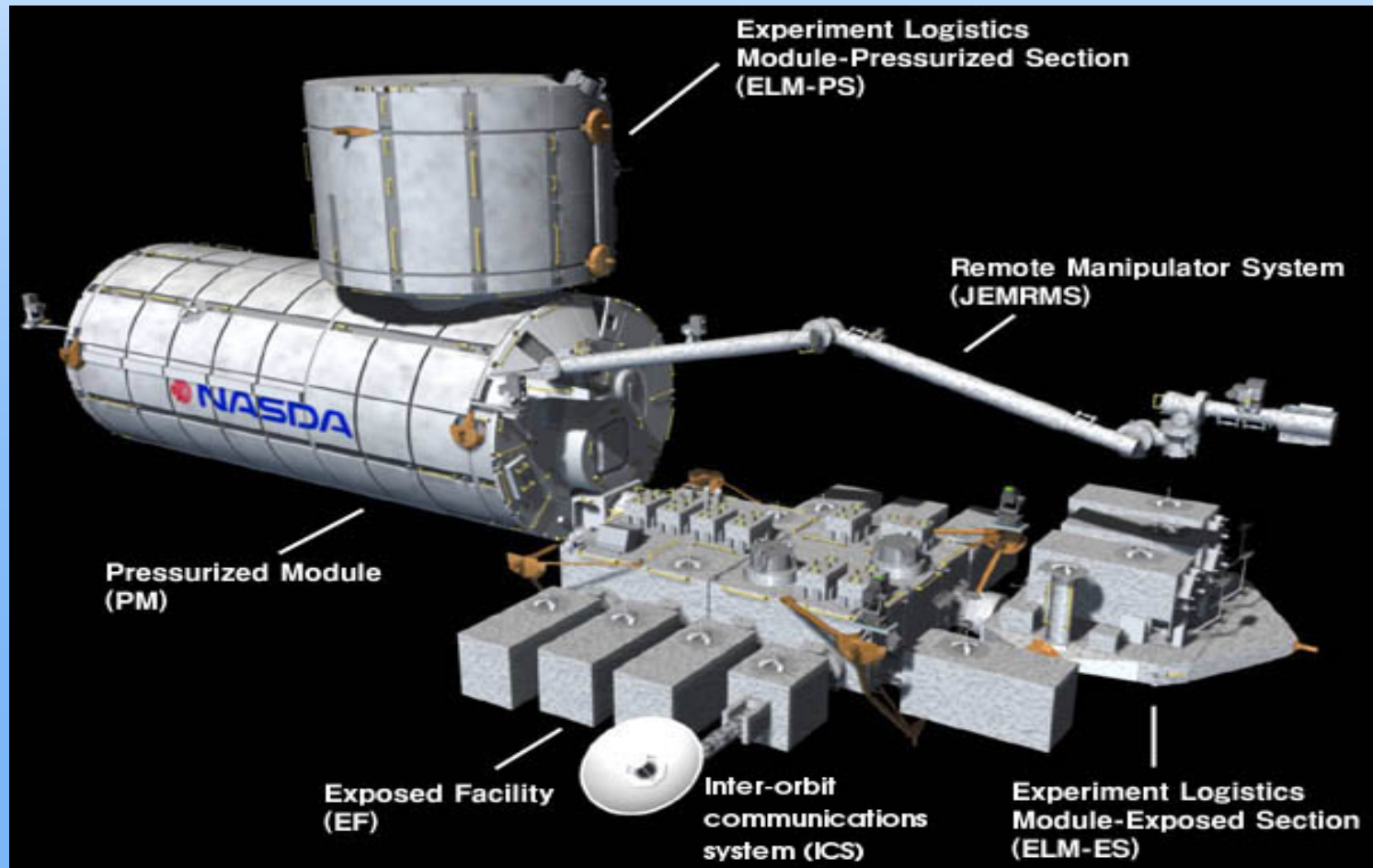




# Space Robotic System

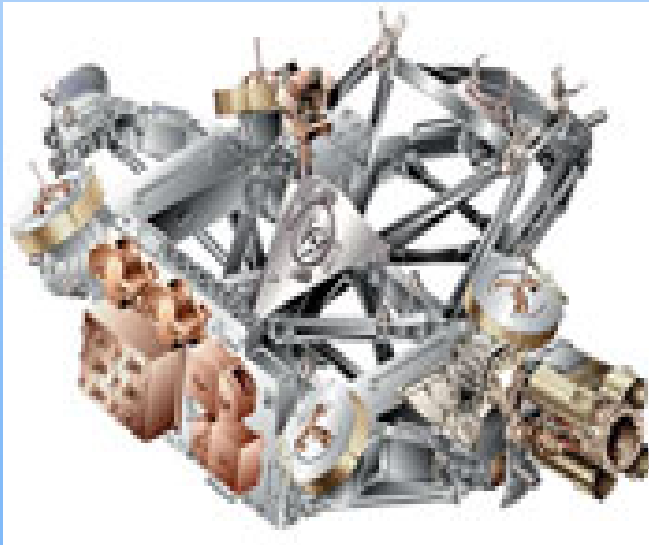


# ISS JAXA JEM Module



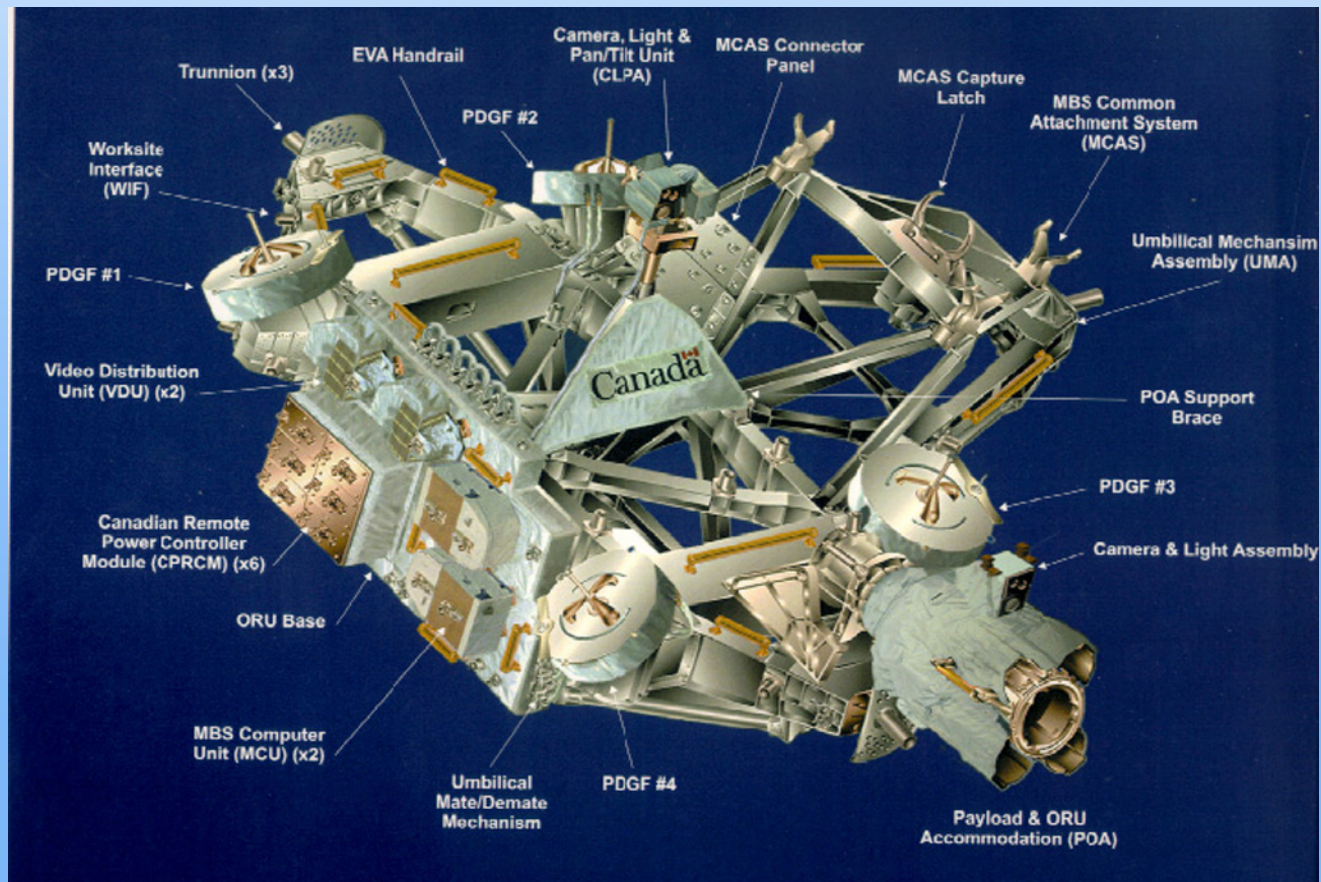
# Mobile Base System

## ▣ Technical Specs



Total Length	5.7 m x 4.5 m x 2.9 m
Mass (approx)	1,450 kg
Mass Handling/Transportation Capacity	20,900kg
Degrees of Freedom	Fixed
Peak Power (Operational)	825 Watts
Average Power (Keep alive)	365 Watts

# Mobile Base Platform (MBS)





# Space Station Remote Manipulator System (SRMS)

## SSRMS Arm Specifications:



Width 2.2M

Length 17.6M

Mass (approx.) 1,800Kg

Mass handling capacity 100,000Kg

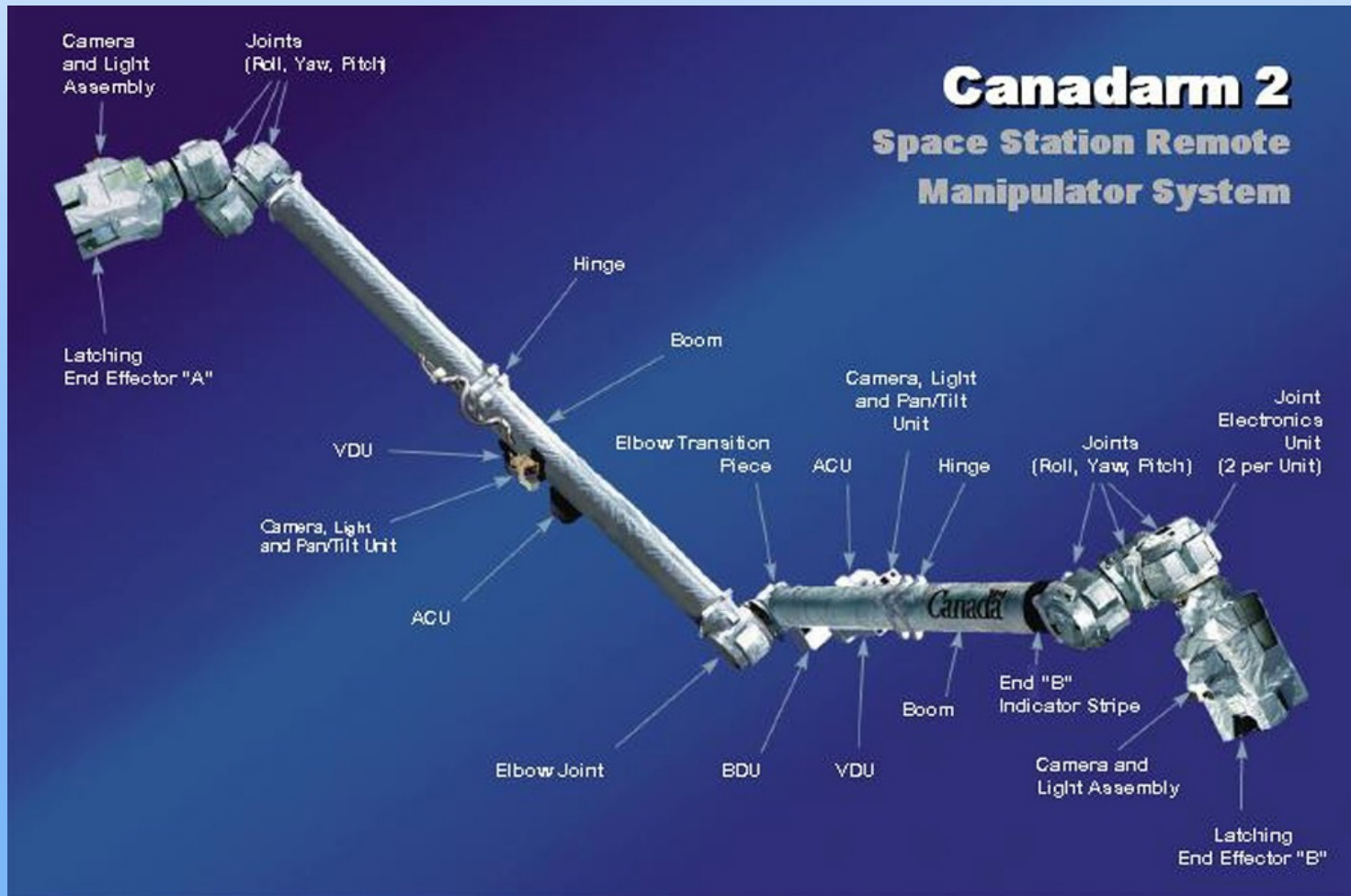
Degrees of freedom 7

Peak power 2000 Watts

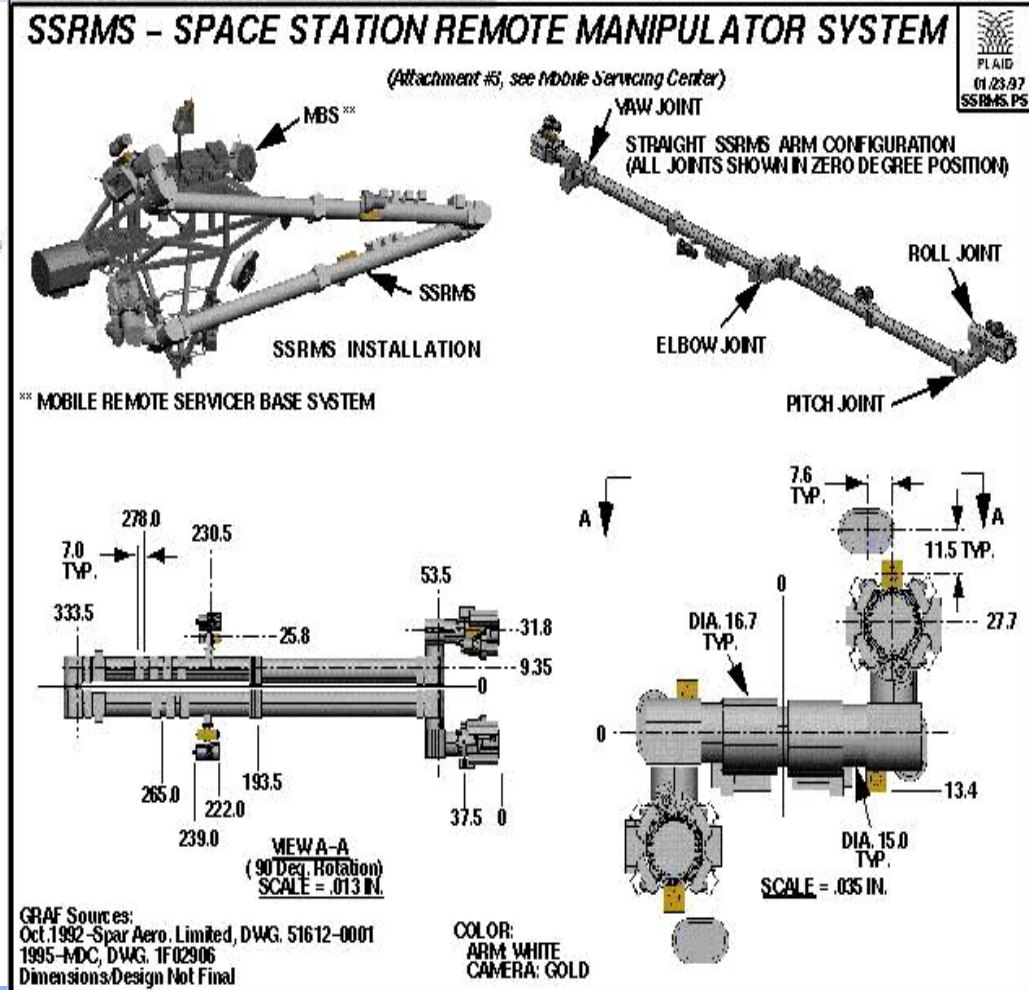
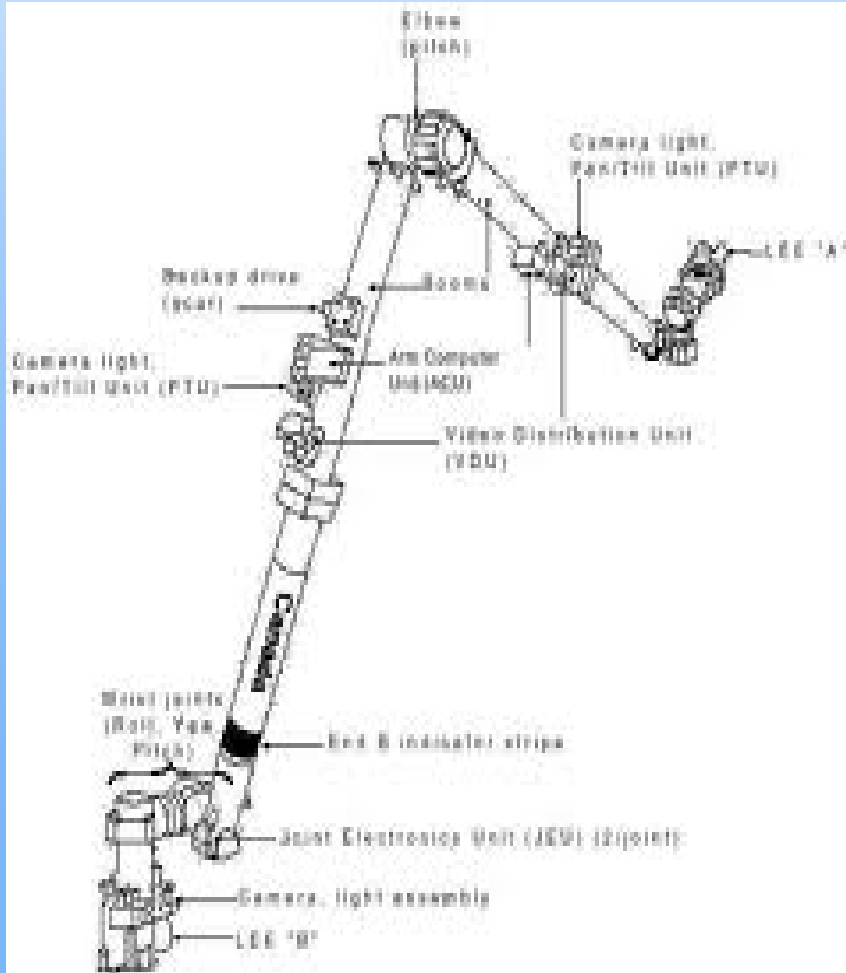
Average power 1360 Watts

Stopping distance ( max. load) 0.6m

# SSRMS



# Space Station Remote Manipulator System SSRMS

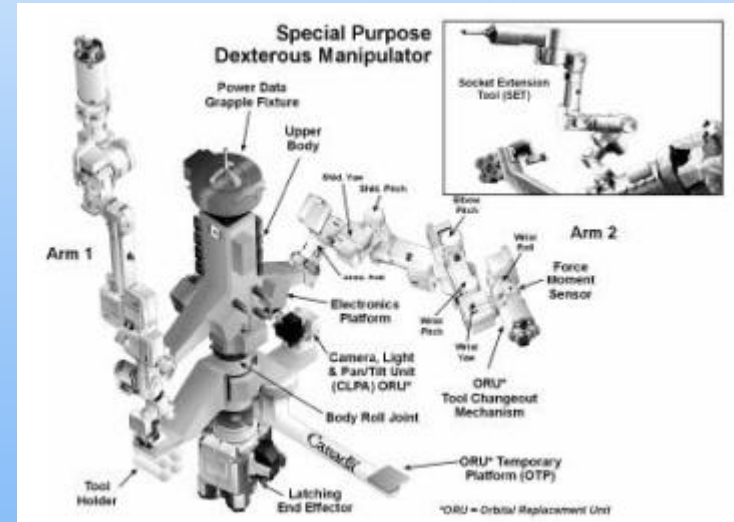


# SSRMS folded



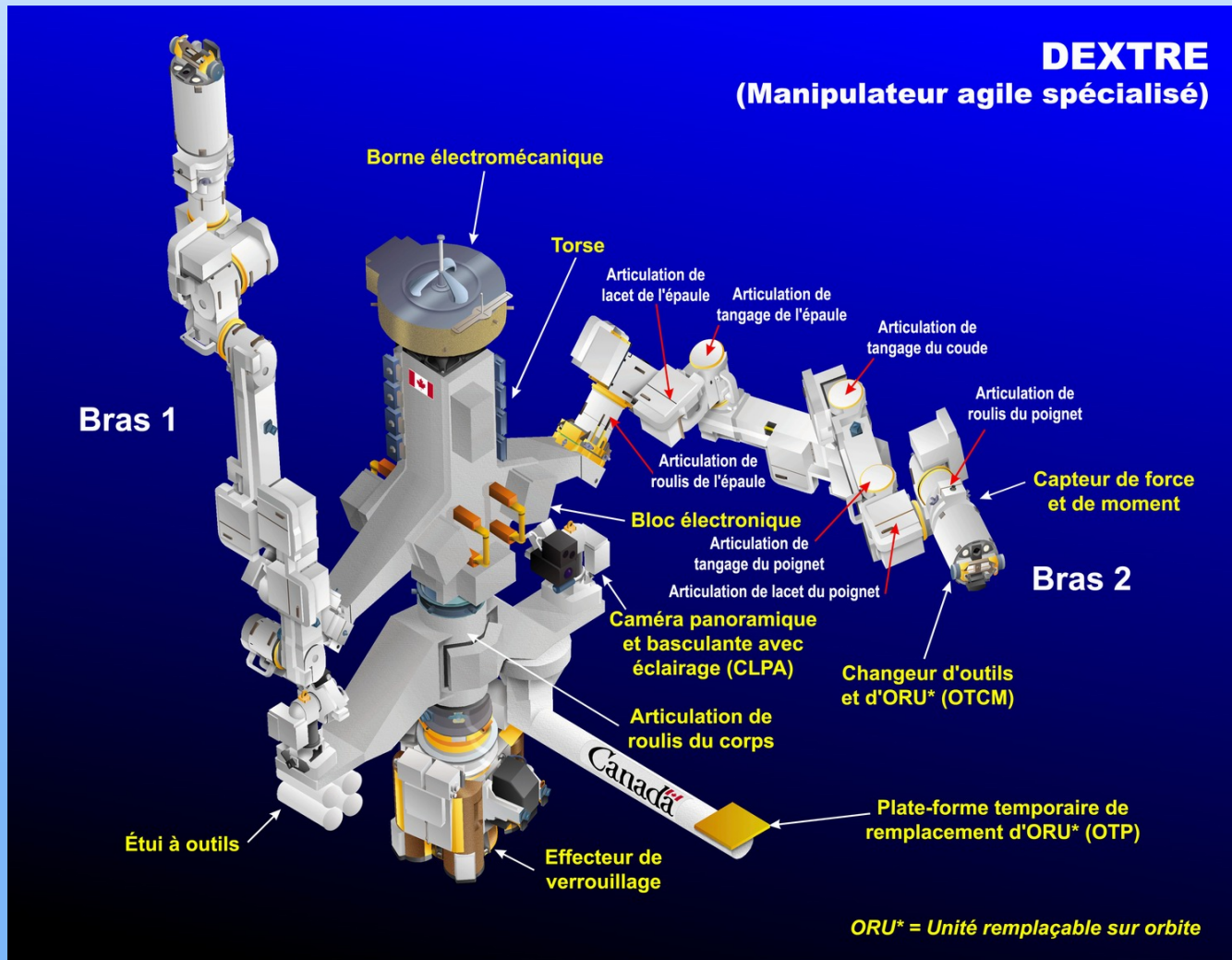


# Special Purpose Dexterous Manipulator (SPDM)



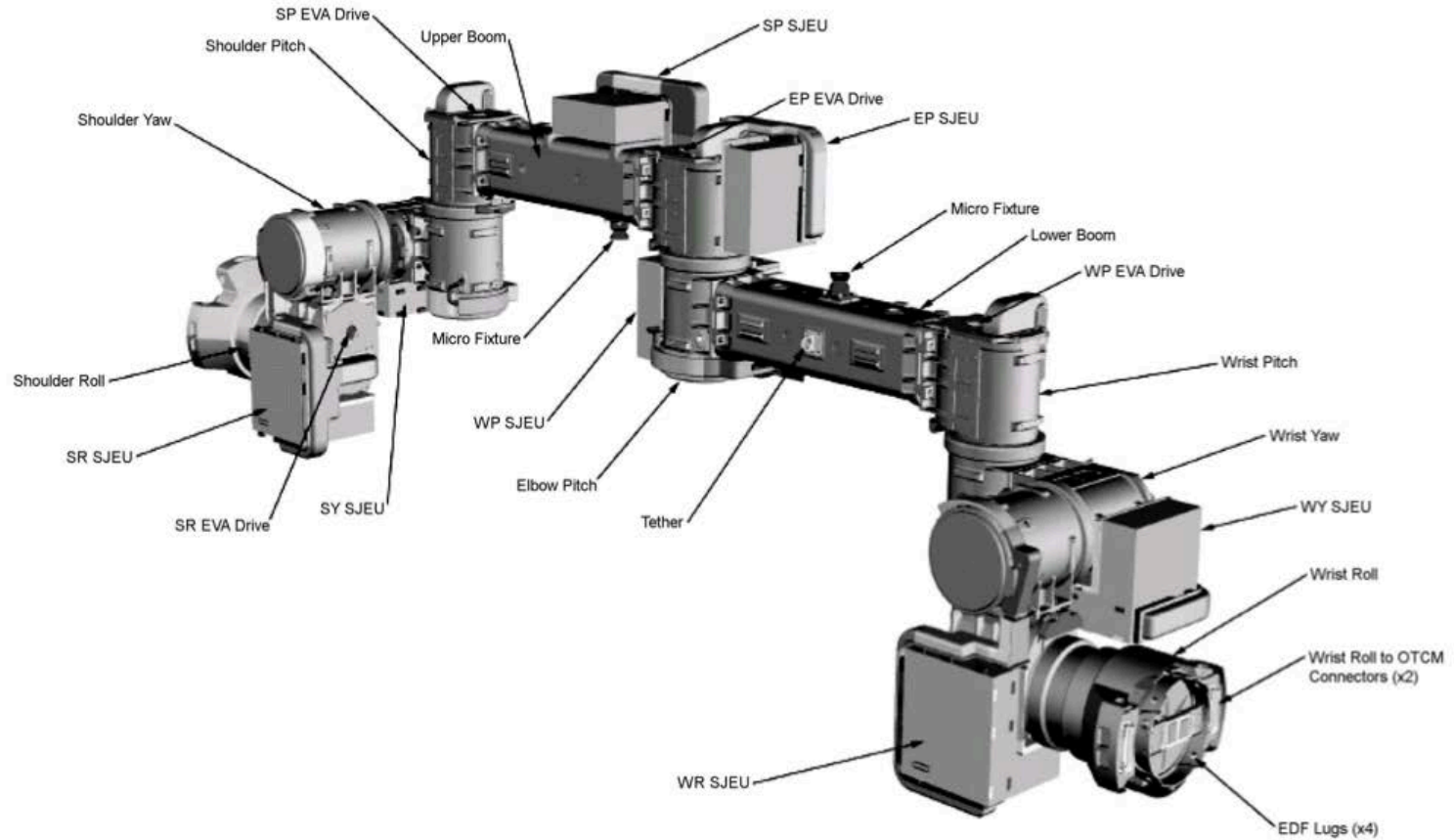
Length	3.5 m
Mass (approx)	1,662 kg
Mass Handling Capacity	600 kg
Degrees of Freedom	15
Peak Power	2000 Watts
Average Power	600 Watts
Stopping Distance (under max. load)	0.15 m

# SPDM - Dextre



# SPDM

## SPDM ARM ASSY



# RMS Robot





# Shuttle Arm (RMS)

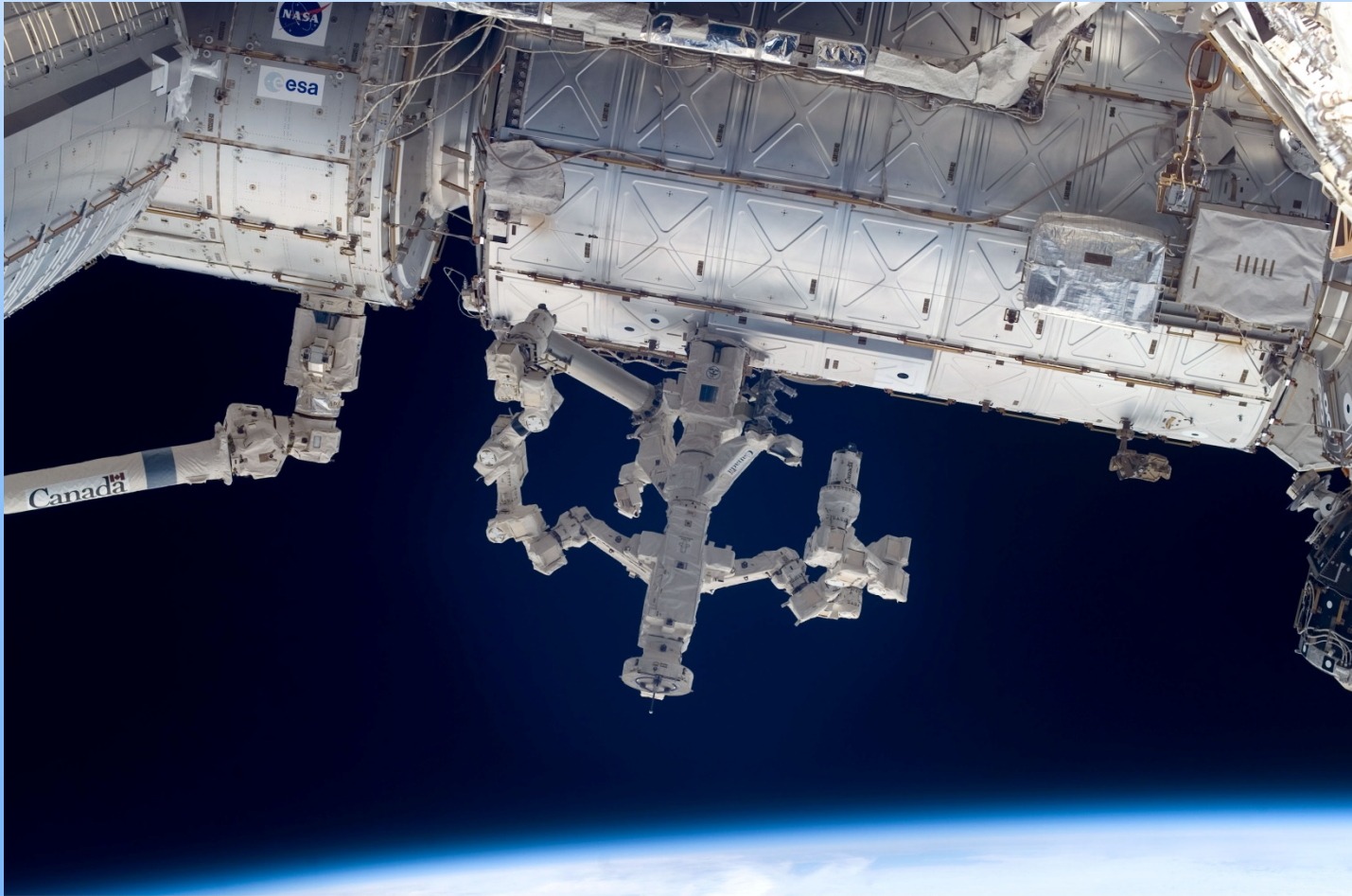


# Space Robotics



S131E007745





ISS017E009056

# Space Robotics 3



S123E007088



# Satellite retrieval



# Satellite robot (SPDM Dextre from CSA) – Tumbling Satellite Problem



## ■ Space Robotic Manipulators

- Represent an ideal technology to perform repetitive and lengthy tasks
- Require less infrastructure than humans (such as life support systems)

## ■ Application Examples

- Maintenance, repair and assembly
- Spacecraft deployment and retrieve
- Extravehicular activity support
- Shuttle inspection

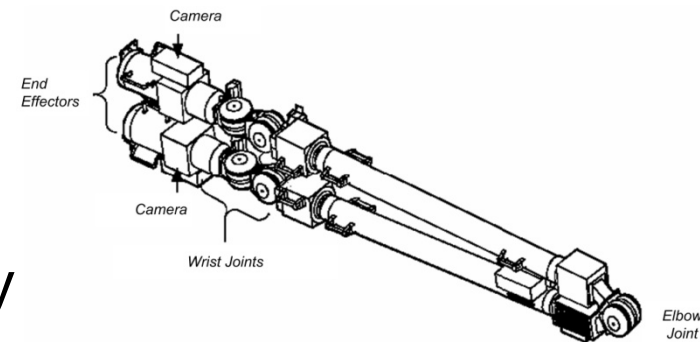


Image courtesy of ESA

## ■ Manipulators

- Operational control challenges due to flexible effects, especially in the joints
- Joint flexibility effects introduce vibrations and can lead to instability when neglected in the control system design

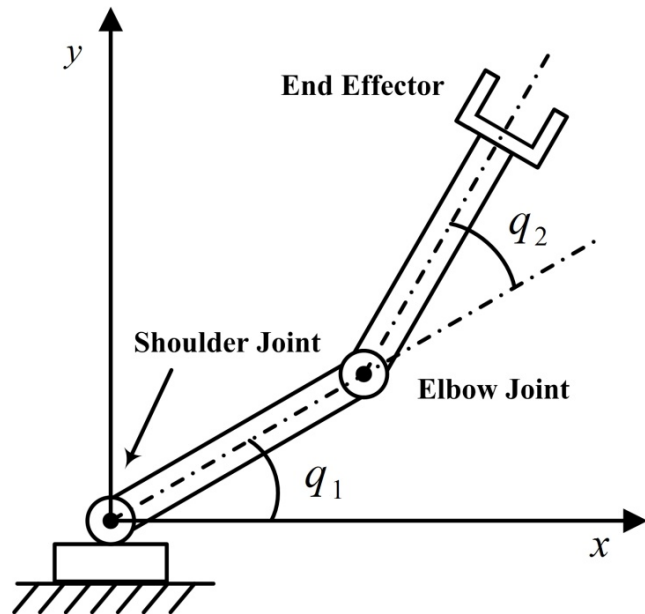
## ■ Main Objective

- Develop and validate advanced control systems for flexible joint space robotic manipulators

# Two-Link Space Robot

## ■ Rigid Dynamics

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \mathbf{M}_r(\mathbf{q})\ddot{\mathbf{q}} + \mathbf{C}_r(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}})\dot{\mathbf{q}}$$



where

$$M_{r11} = m_1 l_{c1}^2 + m_2 (l_1^2 + l_{c2}^2 + 2l_1 l_{c2} \cos q_2) + I_1 + I_2$$

$$M_{r12} = M_{r21} = m_2 (l_{c2}^2 + l_1 l_{c2} \cos q_2) + I_2$$

$$M_{r22} = m_2 l_{c2}^2 + I_2$$

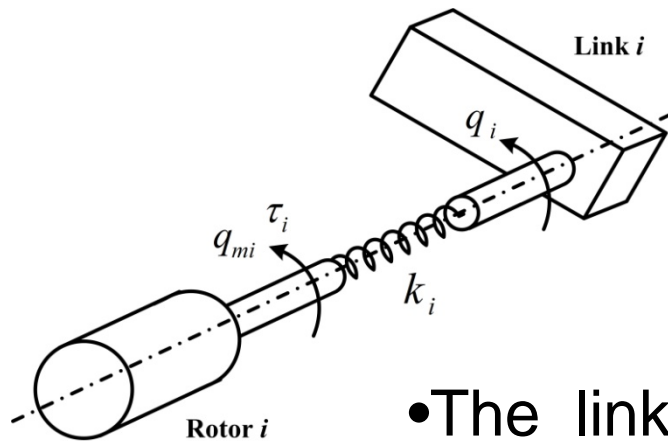
and

$$\mathbf{C}_r(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}) = -m_2 l_1 l_{c2} \sin q_2 \begin{bmatrix} \dot{q}_2 & \dot{q}_1 + \dot{q}_2 \\ \dot{q}_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Two-Link Space Robot

## Flexible Joint Dynamics

- Derived by including the **kinetic energy of the rotors** and considering the **elastic potential energy of the linear springs** at the joints



$$\mathbf{M}_r(\mathbf{q})\ddot{\mathbf{q}} + \mathbf{C}_r(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}})\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \mathbf{k}(\mathbf{q}_m - \mathbf{q})$$

$$\mathbf{J}_m \mathbf{q}_m + \mathbf{k}(\mathbf{q}_m - \mathbf{q}) = \boldsymbol{\tau}$$

- The link dynamics and the motor dynamics Eqs. are only coupled by the elastic torque term  $\mathbf{k}(\mathbf{q}_m - \mathbf{q})$



# Flexible Joint Control Survey

## ■ Flexible Joint Control Categories

- Proportional Derivative (Tomei, 1991)
- Singular Perturbation-Based (Spong, 1989)
- Integral Manifold (Ghorbel and Spong, 1992)
- Feedback Linearization (De Luca, 1998, 2005, 2008)
- Optimal (Merabet and Gu, 2008)
- Adaptive (Slotine, 1987, 1988, 2008)
- Simple Adaptive Control (Sasiadek, Ulrich, Barkana, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012)
- Robust (Lee, Yeon, Park and Yim, 2006, 2007)
- Nonlinear Backstepping (Brogliato, 1995, 1998)
- Fuzzy and Neural Network (Zeman, 1989, 1997)
- Iterative (Wang, 1995)

# Flexible Joint Control Survey

## ■ Unresolved Issues

- Simple and efficient algorithms considering practical limitations are yet to be developed
- Applicability of existing control strategies to real-time space applications (no gravity, highly limited computational load) needs to be assessed
- Performance validation should be done with large square trajectories (flexible effects are more noticeable → greater control challenge)



# Advanced Control Strategies

- **Compare 4 control strategies for flexible joint space robots**
  - Slotine and Li controller
  - PD controller
  - Singular Perturbation-Based controller
  - Nonlinear Backstepping controller
- **Compare their respective performance while tracking a 12.6 m x 12.6 m square trajectory**

# Advanced Control Strategies

## ■ Slotine and Li Control Strategy

Slotine J. J. E. and Li W., "On the Adaptive Control of Robot Manipulators," *International Journal of Robotics Research*, Vol. 6, No. 3, pp. 49-59, 1987.

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}_r = \mathbf{M}_r(\mathbf{q})\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_r + \mathbf{C}_r(\mathbf{q}, \dot{\mathbf{q}})\dot{\mathbf{q}}_r - \mathbf{K}_d \mathbf{s}$$

where

$$\dot{\mathbf{q}}_r = \dot{\mathbf{q}}_c + \boldsymbol{\Lambda}(\mathbf{q}_c - \mathbf{q})$$

$$\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_r = \ddot{\mathbf{q}}_c + \boldsymbol{\Lambda}(\dot{\mathbf{q}}_c - \dot{\mathbf{q}})$$

$$\mathbf{s} = -(\dot{\mathbf{q}}_c - \dot{\mathbf{q}}) - \boldsymbol{\Lambda}(\mathbf{q}_c - \mathbf{q}) = \dot{\mathbf{q}} - \dot{\mathbf{q}}_r$$

$\mathbf{K}_d$  = positive constant gain matrix

# Advanced Control Strategies

- **PD Control Strategy**

Tomei P., "A Simple PD Controller for Robots with Elastic Joints," *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control*, Vol. 36, No. 10, pp. 1208-1213, 1991.

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \mathbf{K}_p (\mathbf{q}_{mc} - \mathbf{q}_m) - \mathbf{K}_d \dot{\mathbf{q}}_m$$

where

$$\mathbf{q}_{mc} = \mathbf{q}_c$$

$\mathbf{K}_p$  = positive constant gain matrix

$\mathbf{K}_d$  = positive constant gain matrix

# Advanced Control Strategies

- **Singular Perturbation-Based Control Strategy**

Spong M. W., "Adaptive Control of Flexible Joint Manipulators," *Systems and Control Letters*, Vol. 13, pp. 15-21, 1989.

where

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \boldsymbol{\tau}_s + \boldsymbol{\tau}_f$$

where

$\boldsymbol{\tau}_s = \boldsymbol{\tau}_r =$  SLI control algorithm for space robots defined earlier

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}_f = \mathbf{K}_v (\dot{\mathbf{q}} - \dot{\mathbf{q}}_m)$$

$\mathbf{K}_v =$  positive constant gain matrix

# Advanced Control Strategies

## ■ Nonlinear Backstepping Control Strategy

Brogliato B., Ortega R. and Lozano R., "Global Tracking Controllers for Flexible Joint Manipulators: A Comparative Study," *Automatica*, Vol. 31, No. 7, pp. 941-956, 1995

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \mathbf{J}_m [\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{mc} - 2(\dot{\mathbf{q}}_m - \dot{\mathbf{q}}_{mc}) - 2(\mathbf{q}_m - \mathbf{q}_{mc}) - (\dot{\mathbf{s}} + \mathbf{s})] + \mathbf{k}(\mathbf{q}_m - \mathbf{q})$$

where

$$\mathbf{q}_{mc} = \mathbf{k}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\tau}_r + \mathbf{q}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{q}}_{mc} = \mathbf{k}^{-1} \dot{\boldsymbol{\tau}}_r + \dot{\mathbf{q}}$$

$$\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{mc} = \mathbf{k}^{-1} \ddot{\boldsymbol{\tau}}_r + \ddot{\mathbf{q}}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{s}} = -(\dot{\mathbf{q}}_c - \ddot{\mathbf{q}}) - \boldsymbol{\Lambda}(\dot{\mathbf{q}}_c - \dot{\mathbf{q}}) = \ddot{\mathbf{q}} - \ddot{\mathbf{q}}_r$$

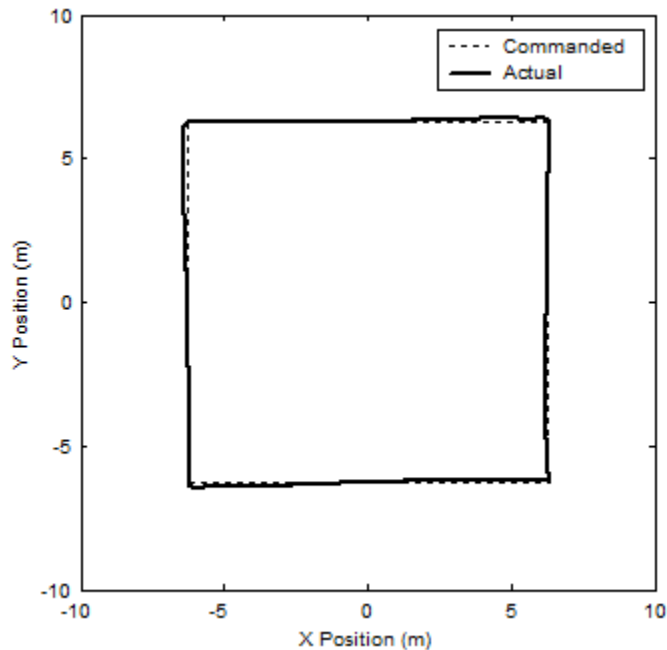
$\mathbf{k}$  = joint stiffness matrix

Note: The joint **acceleration** can be obtained by inverting the link dynamics equation and the **jerk** is obtained by time-differentiating the acceleration

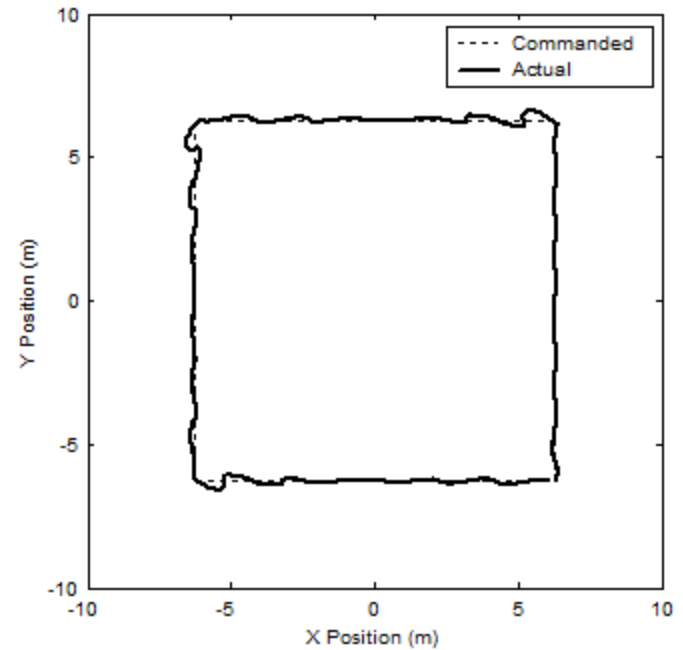


# Advanced Control Strategies

- **Simulation Results**

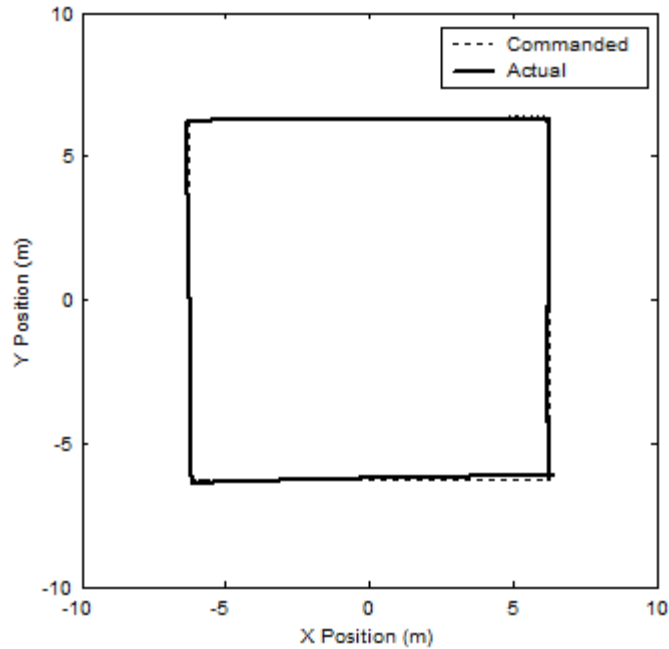


Slotine and Li

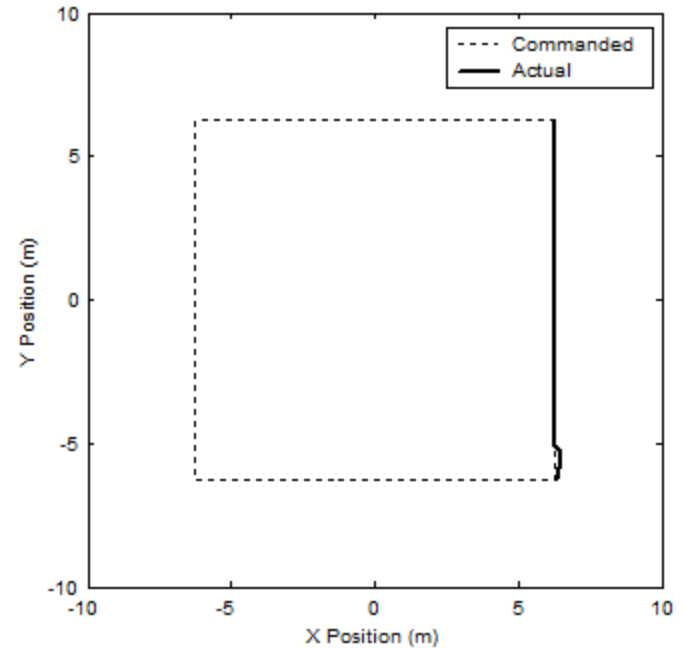


PD

# Advanced Control Strategies



Singular Perturbation-Based



Nonlinear Backstepping

# Novel Adaptive Control Scheme

## ■ Further Improvement

- The **Singular Perturbation-Based** strategy must be extended for robots with unknown/variable joint stiffness coefficients
- The idea is to replace the rigid term (SLI) with an adaptive control algorithm

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \boldsymbol{\tau}_s + \boldsymbol{\tau}_f$$

- As a first step, a novel model reference adaptive control (MRAC) scheme for rigid joint space robots is presented

# Novel Adaptive Control Scheme

- Adaptive Jacobian Scheme

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q})^T \left\{ \mathbf{K}_p(t) \begin{bmatrix} e_x \\ e_y \end{bmatrix} + \mathbf{K}_d(t) \begin{bmatrix} \dot{e}_x \\ \dot{e}_y \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

where

$\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{q})$  = Jacobian matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} e_x & e_y \end{bmatrix}^T = \begin{bmatrix} (x_{ref} - x) & (y_{ref} - y) \end{bmatrix}^T \quad x = l_1 \cos q_1 + l_2 \cos(q_1 + q_2)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{e}_x & \dot{e}_y \end{bmatrix}^T = \begin{bmatrix} (\dot{x}_{ref} - \dot{x}) & (\dot{y}_{ref} - \dot{y}) \end{bmatrix}^T \quad y = l_1 \sin q_1 + l_2 \sin(q_1 + q_2)$$

$$\frac{x_{ref}}{x_c} = \frac{y_{ref}}{y_c} = \frac{\omega_n^2}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n s + \omega_n^2}$$

# Novel Adaptive Control Scheme

where the proportional adaptive gain is adapted as

$$\mathbf{K}_p(t) = \mathbf{K}_{pp}(t) + \int \dot{\mathbf{K}}_{pi}(t) dt$$

with

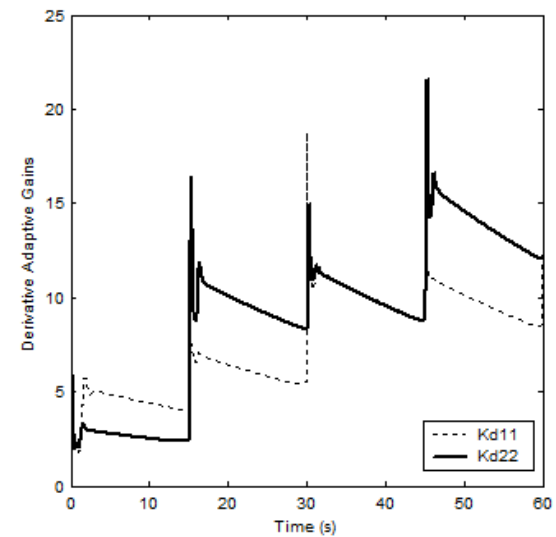
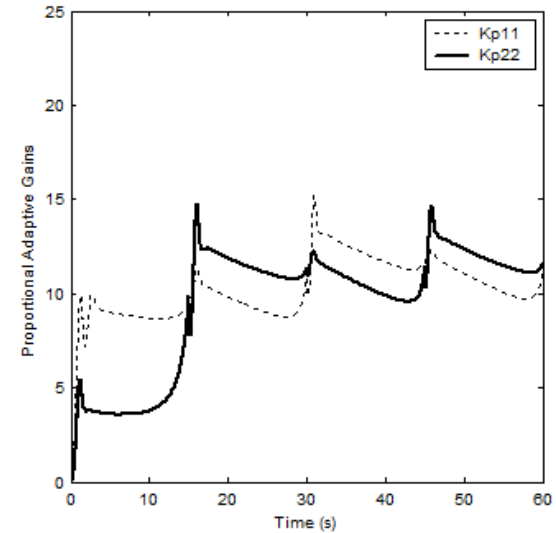
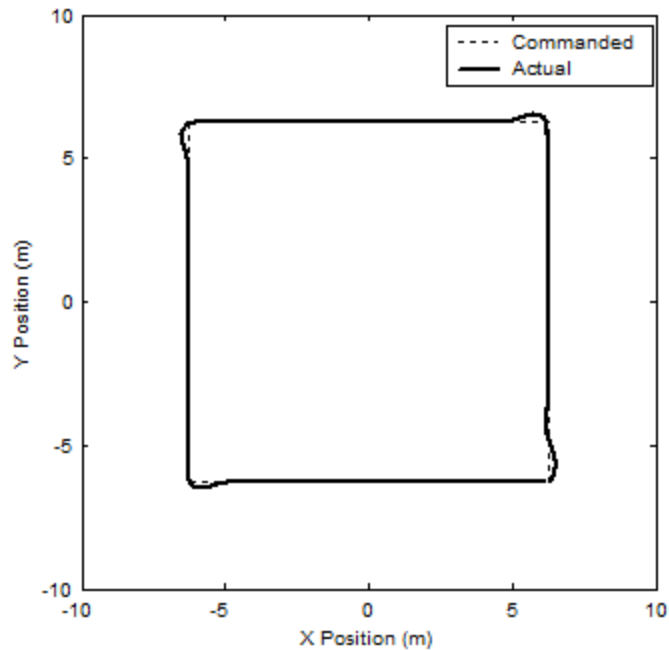
$$\mathbf{K}_{pp}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} e_x^2 \Gamma_{pp} & 0 \\ 0 & e_y^2 \Gamma_{pp} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{K}}_{pi}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} e_x^2 \Gamma_{pi} - \delta_p K_{pi11}(t) & 0 \\ 0 & e_y^2 \Gamma_{pi} - \delta_p K_{pi22}(t) \end{bmatrix}$$



# Novel Adaptive Control Scheme

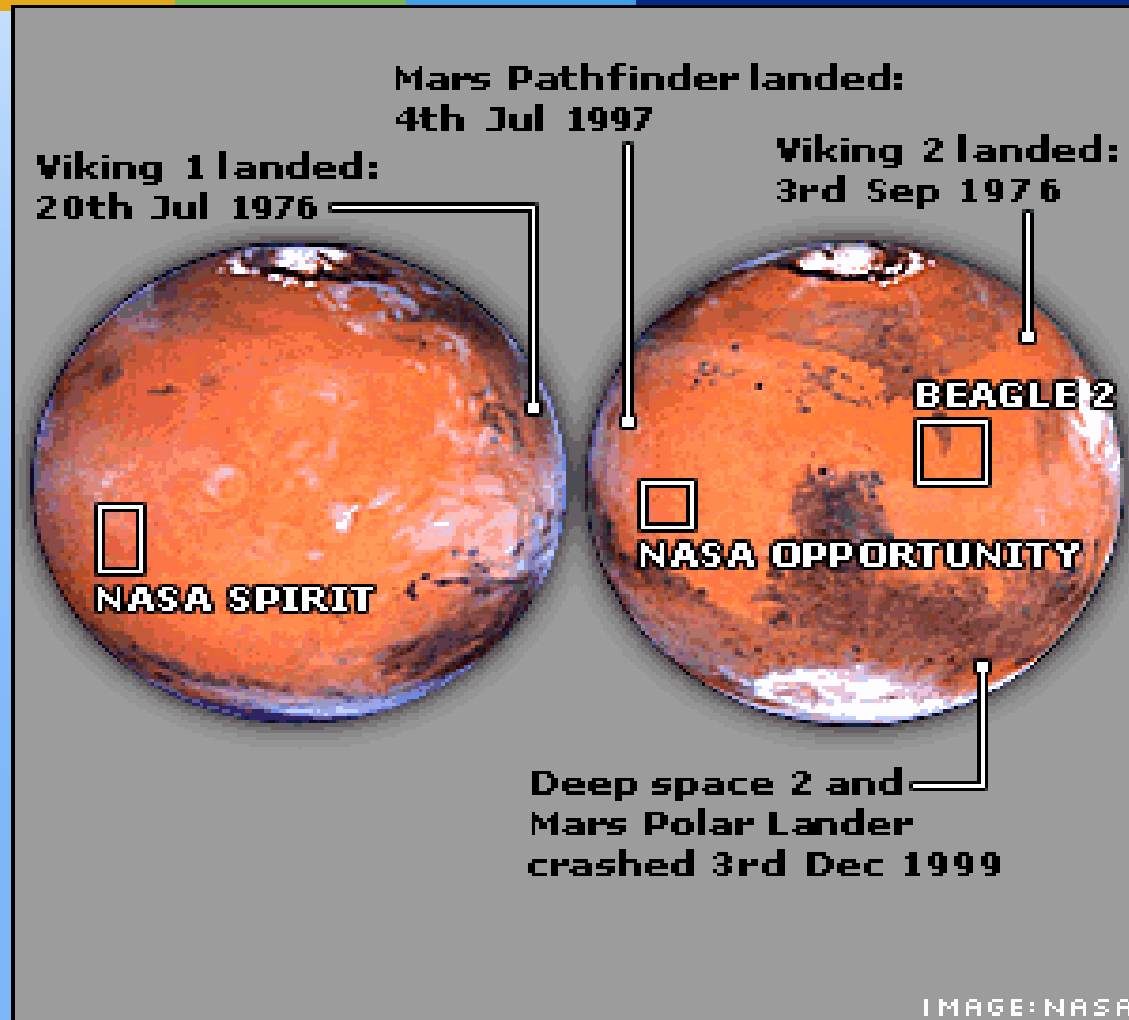
## ■ Simulation Results



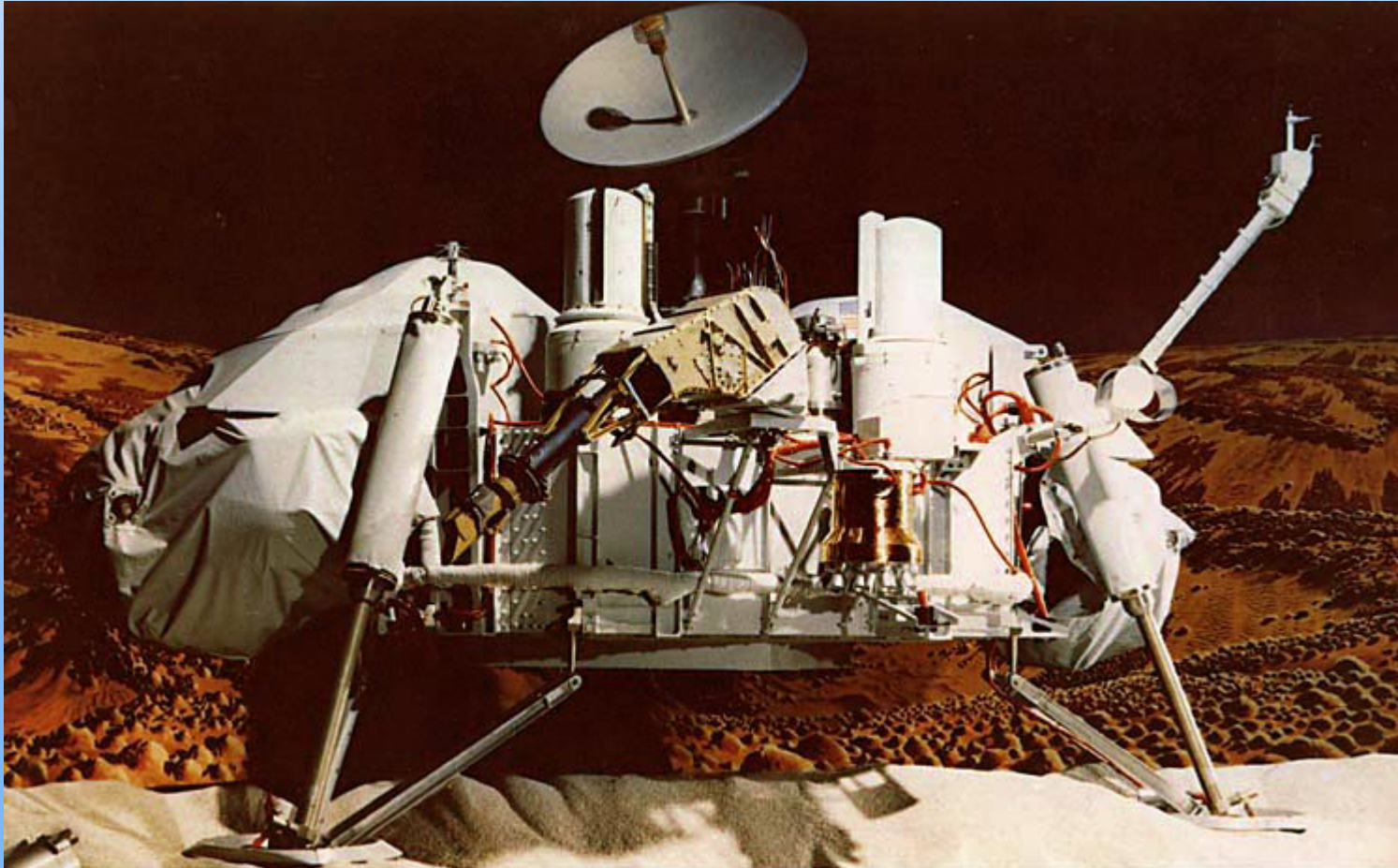
# Space Robotic Missions to Mars

- Viking Lander Missions
- Pathfinder/Sojourner Mission (Pathfinder landed July 4-th, 1997)
- Spirit / Opportunity Mission
- Curiosity Mission (will land on August 6, 2012)

# Mars robotic missions



# Viking Lander Missions (Orbiter 1 and Orbiter 2)

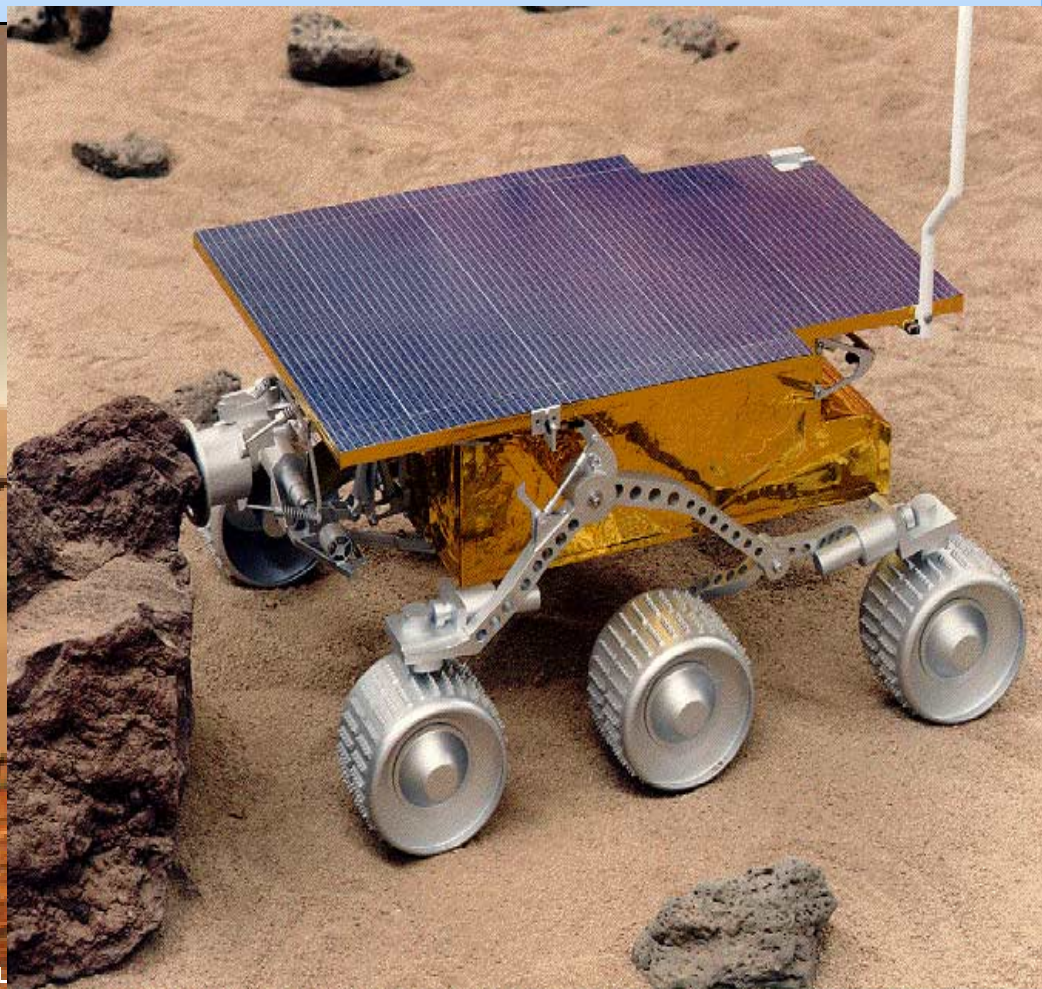


# Phoenix Lander



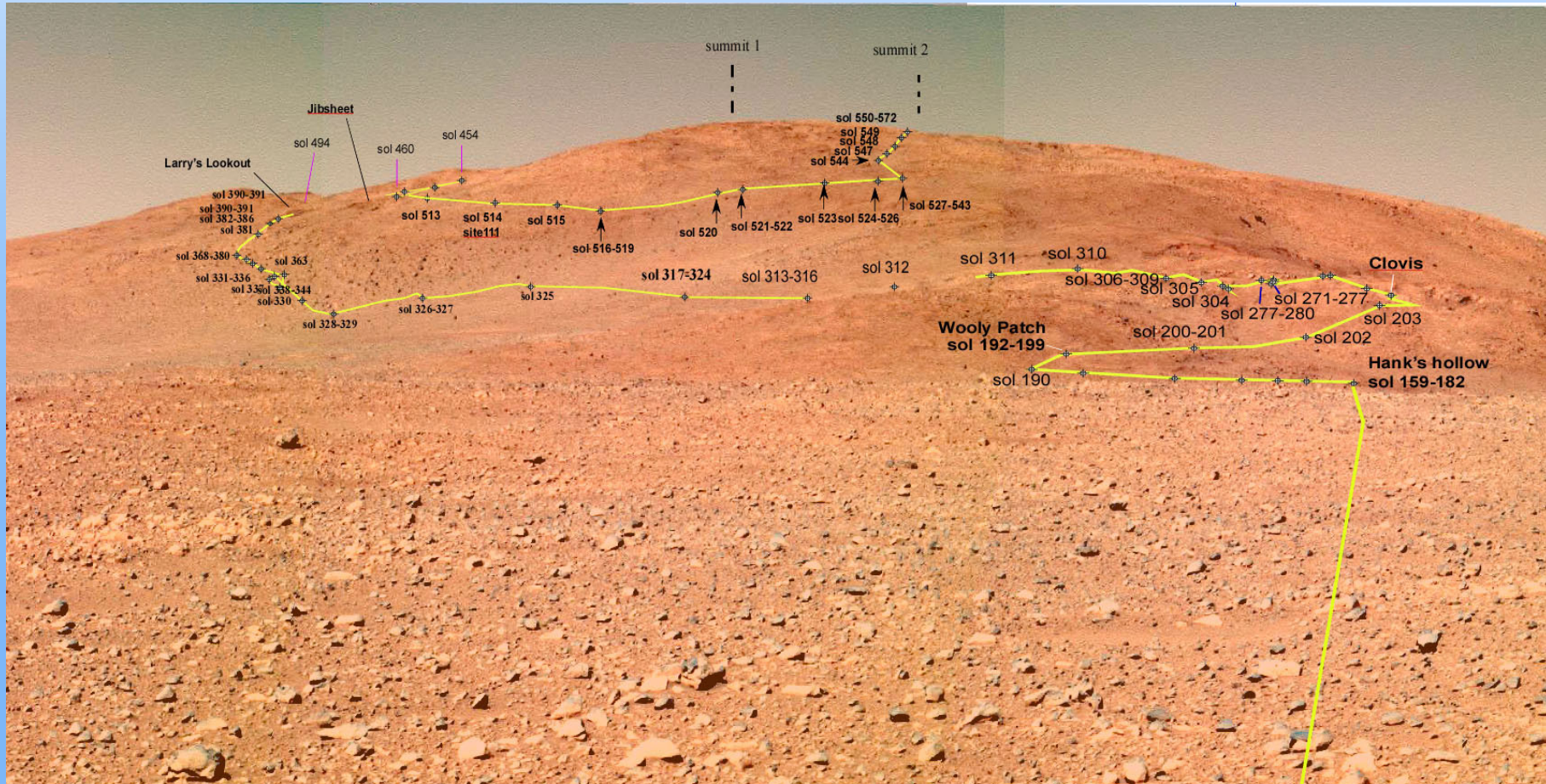


# “Spirit”/“Opportunity” and “Pathfinder”/ “Sojourner” Rovers





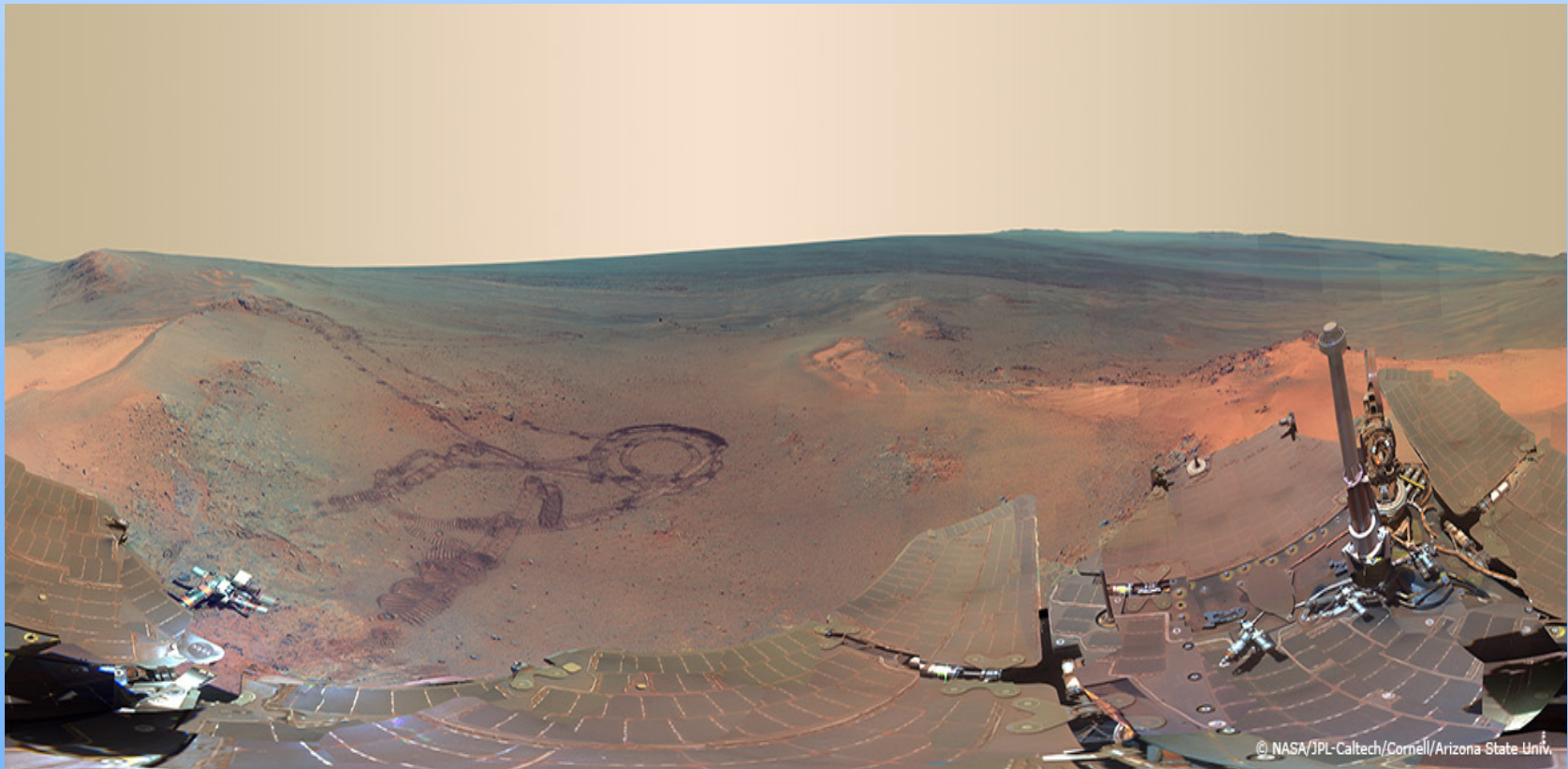
# NASA "Spirit" Rover itinerary



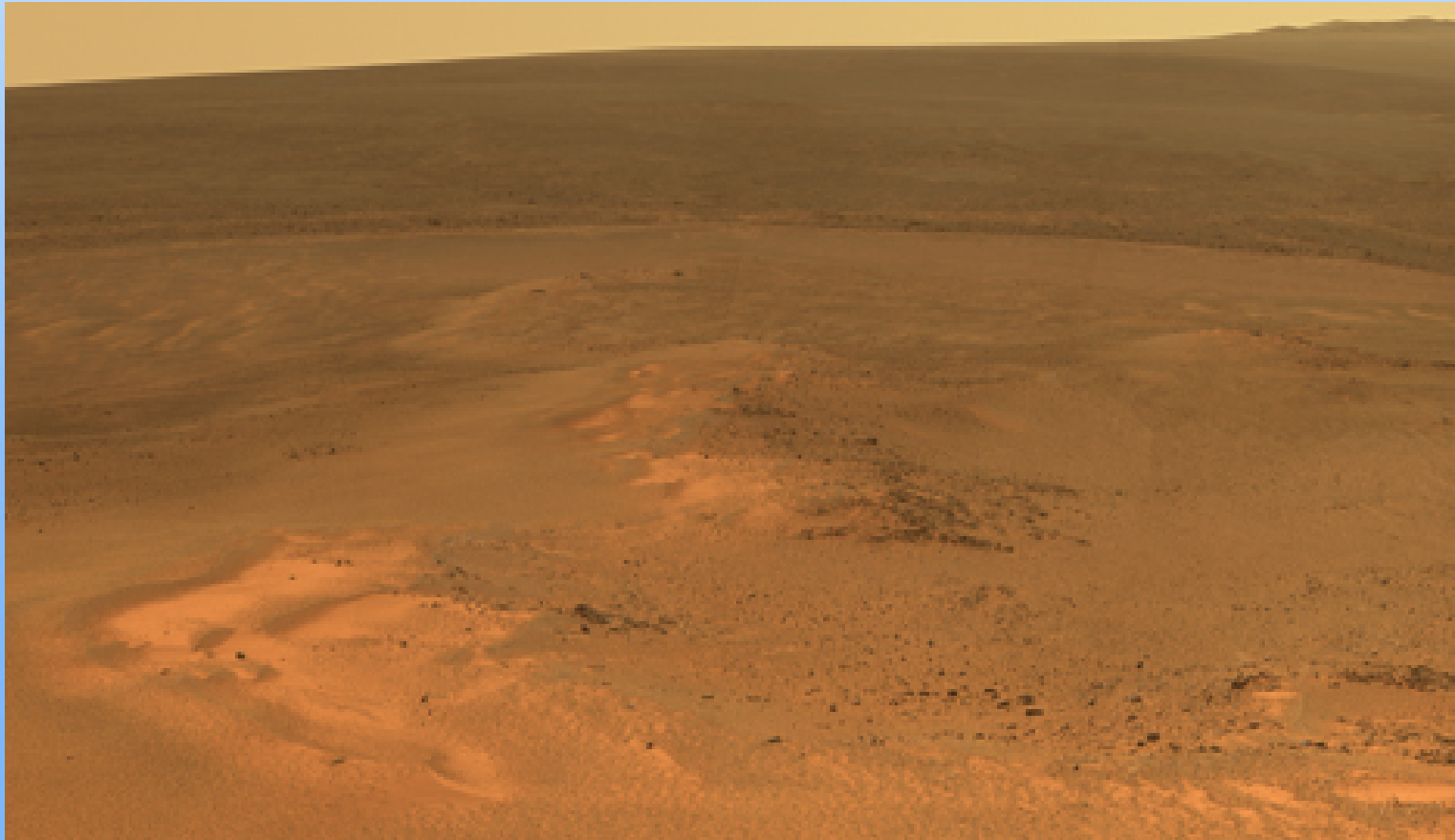


# NASA Mars Rover Opportunity

**Mission** image taken between Dec. 21, 2011, and May 8, 2012



# Image taken by NASA “Opportunity” robot

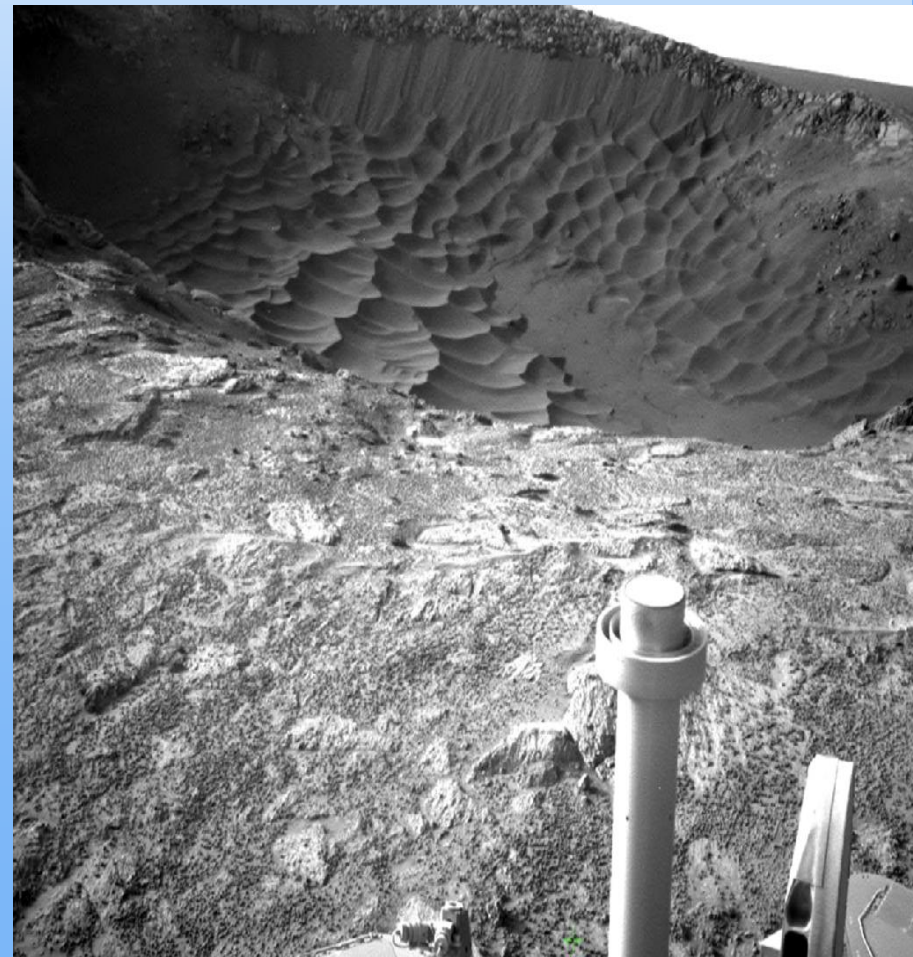
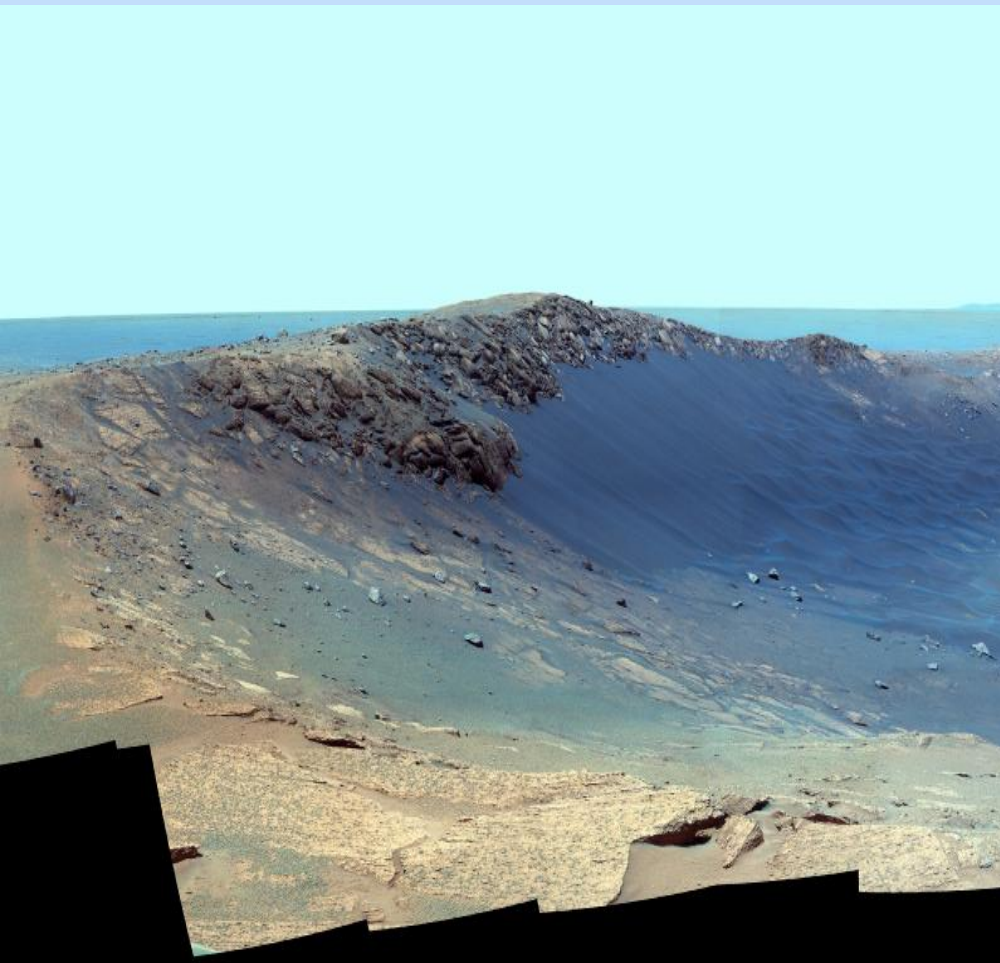


# Image taken by “Opportunity” robot

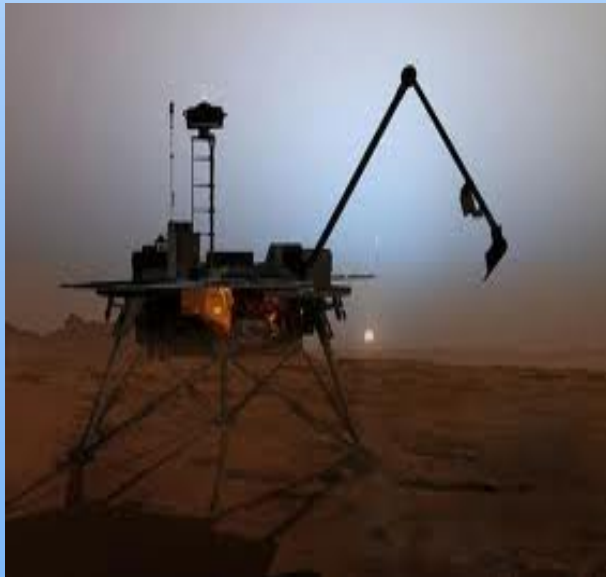




# Images taken by Opportunity robot

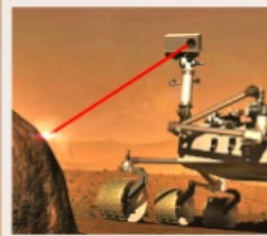


# Space Robots (Phoenix lander and Curiosity mobile robot)

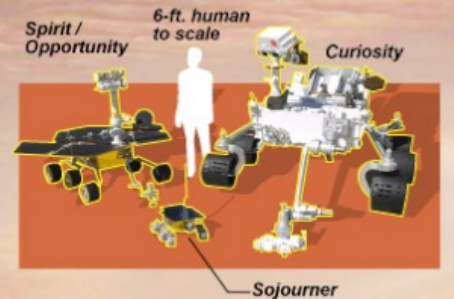


## “Curiosity” Mars Science Laboratory

With a length of 9 feet (2.7 m) and weight of 1,984 pounds (900 kg), the nuclear powered rover “Curiosity” will carry a payload of scientific experiments more than ten times as massive as earlier Mars rovers.



**ChemCam** will fire a laser and analyze the elemental composition of vaporized materials from areas smaller than 1 millimeter on the surface of Martian rocks and soils.



**MMRTG Nuclear Power Source** contains 10 pounds (4.8 kilograms) of plutonium dioxide

**Robotic Arm** puts instruments in contact with the Martian soil. Instruments include the **Alpha Particle X-ray Spectrometer (APXS)** and the **Mars Hand Lens Imager (MAHLI)**, as well as devices associated with sample acquisition and preparation.

**Six wheels**, each with its own individual motor. The two front and two rear wheels also have individual steering motors, which allow the vehicle to turn in place a full 360 degrees.

SOURCE: JET PROPULSION LABORATORY

Graphic by Karl Tate

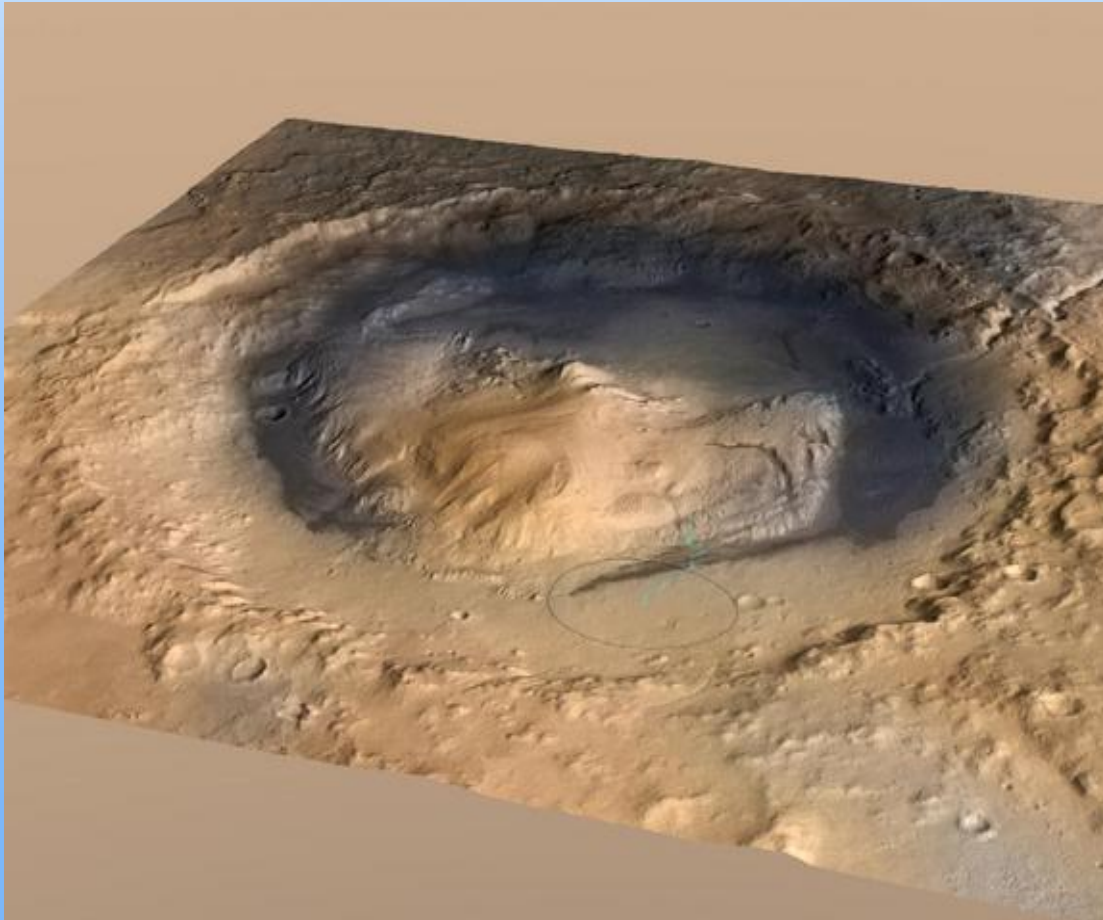
SPACE



# “Curiosity” Mars Rover



# Curiosity landing site



# Mobile space robots design 2

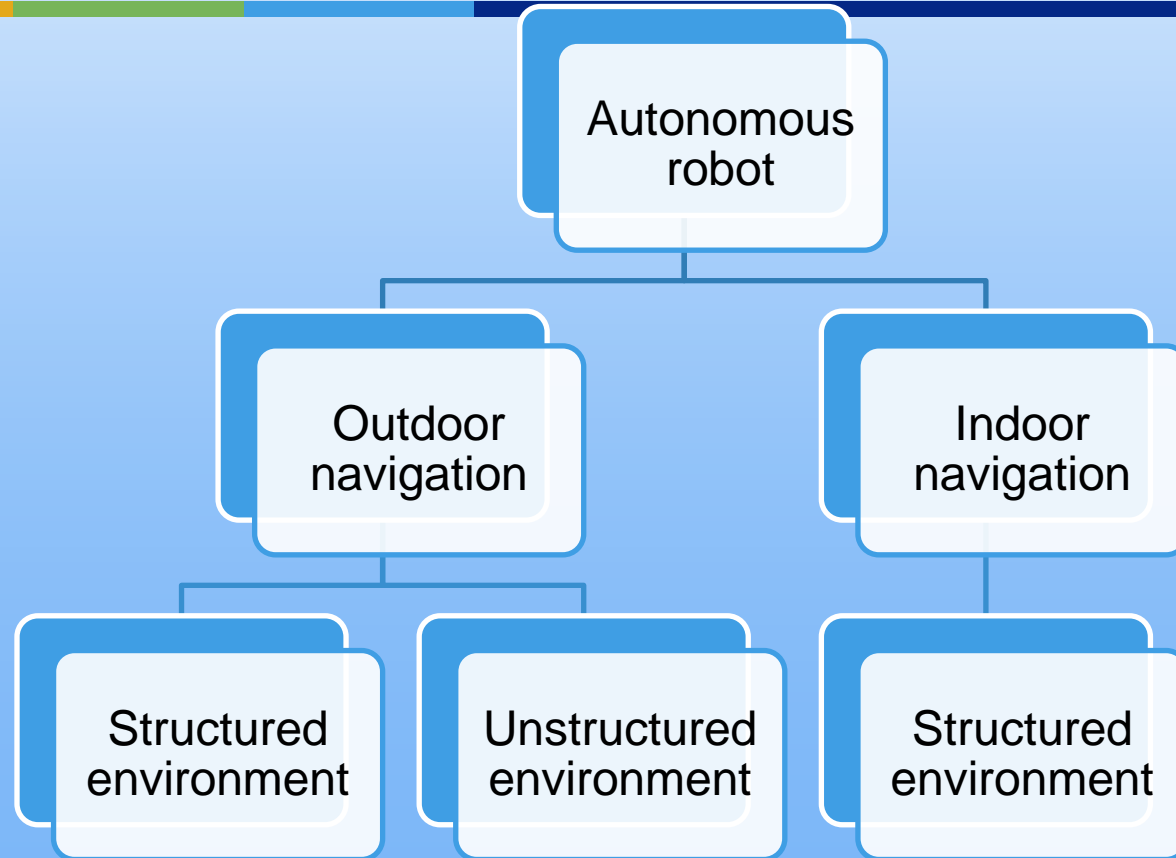




# “Curiosity”, “Spirit” and “Sojourner”



# Guidance, Navigation and Control



**Mapping**

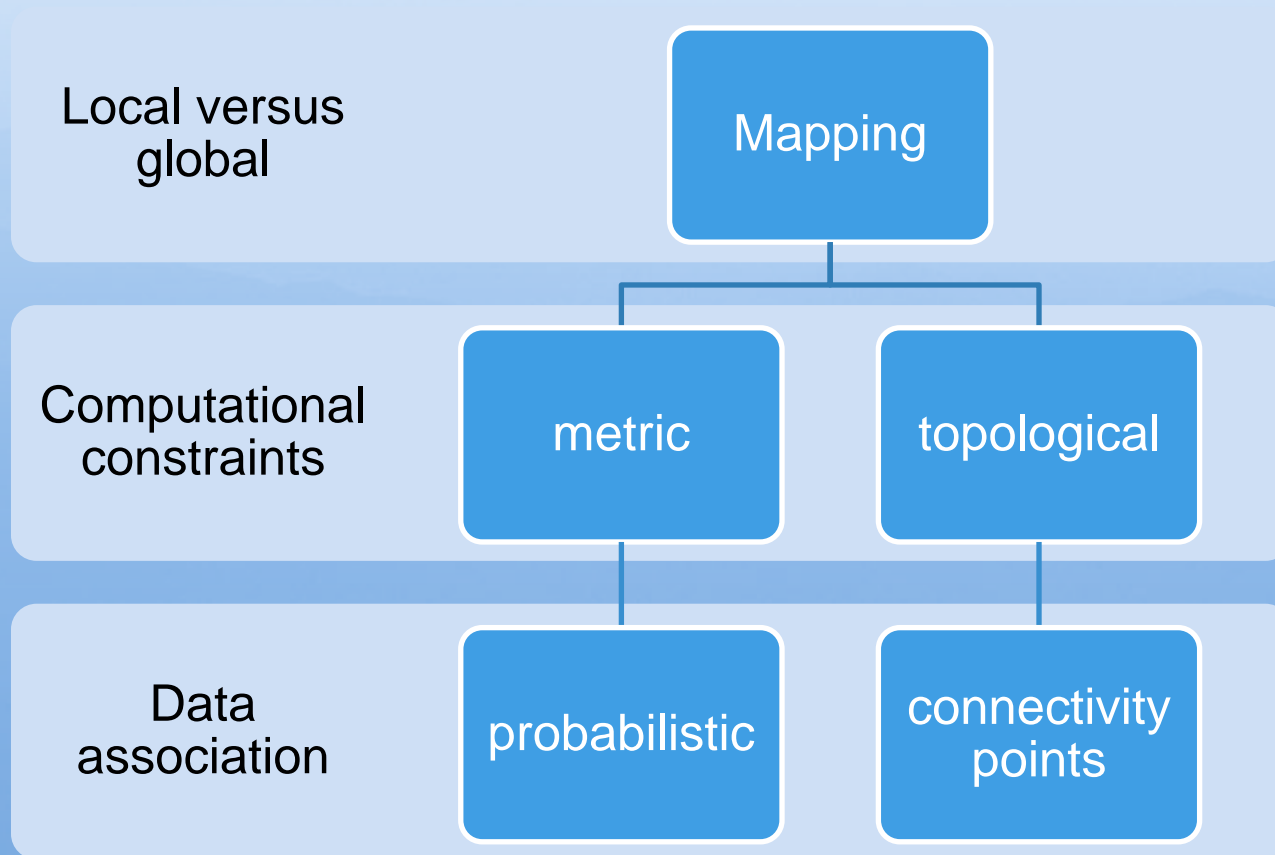
**static**

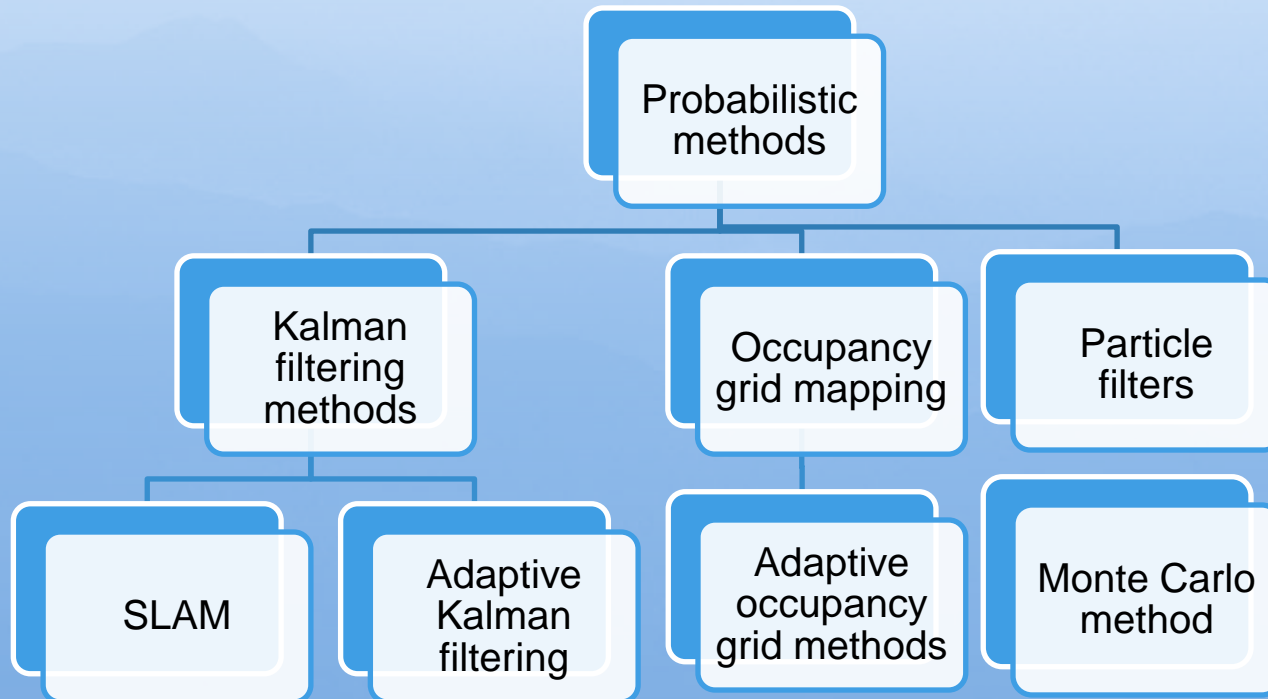
**dynamic**

**Mapping**

**local**

**global**



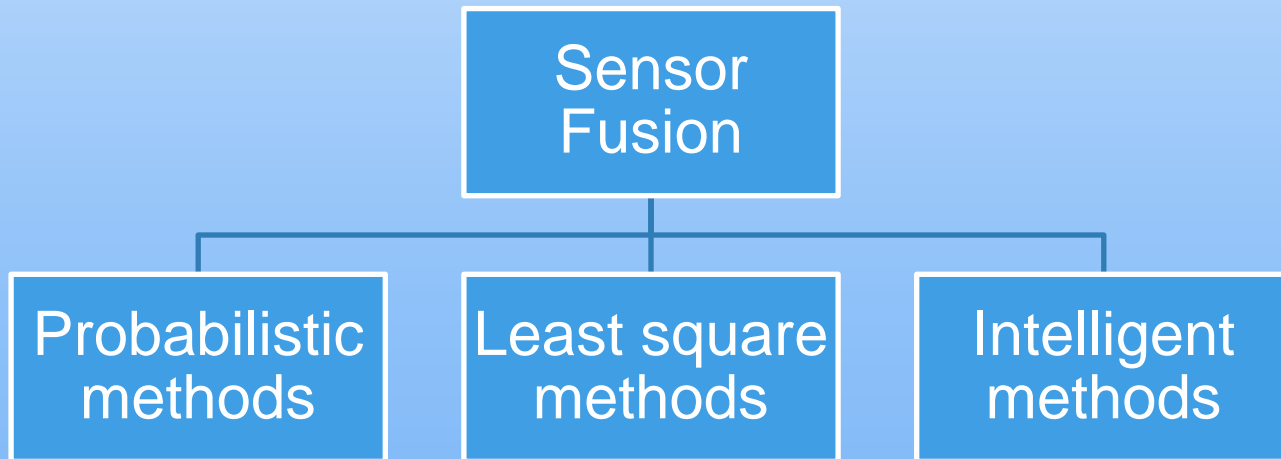




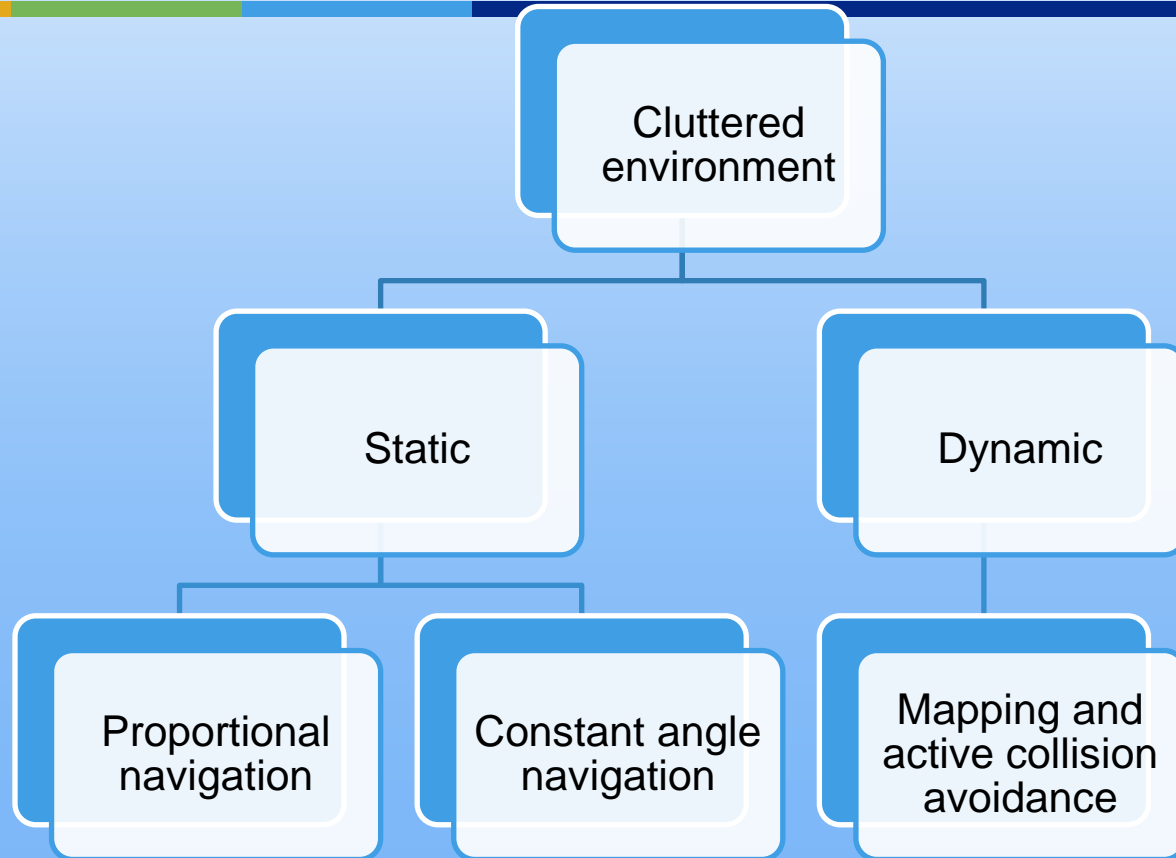
# Sensor/Data Fusion

- Sensor fusion is a measurement integration procedure
- Sensor fusion is one of the most important elements of robot GNC system

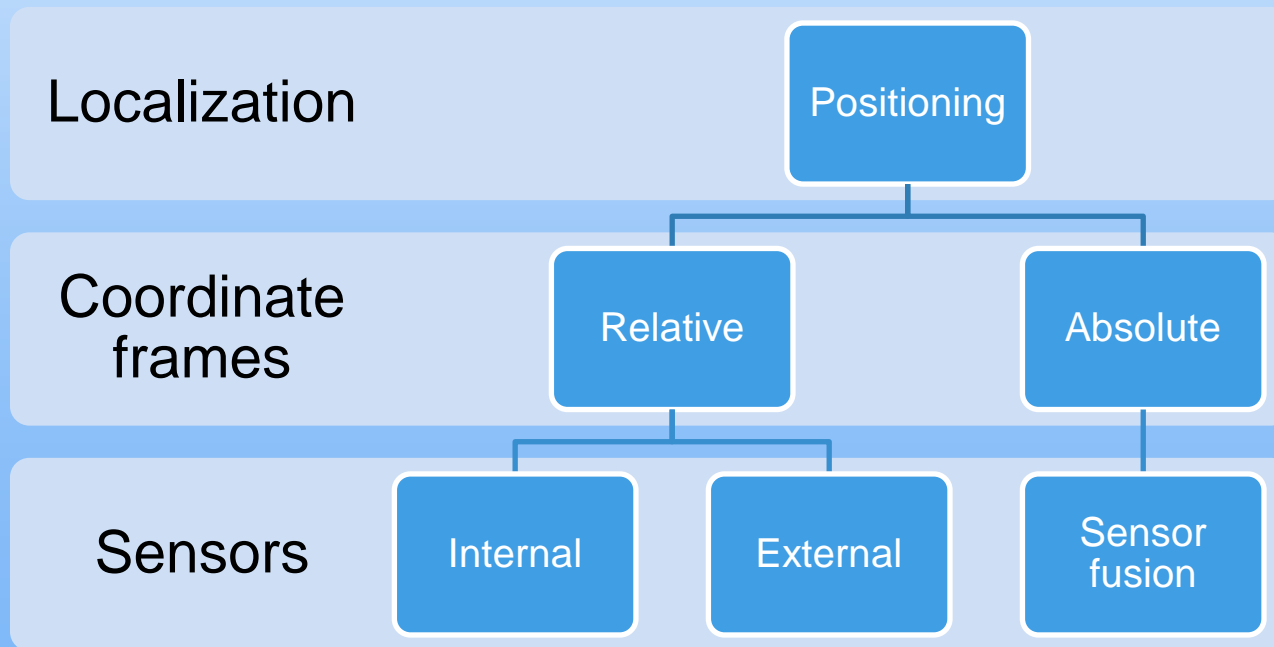
# Sensor Fusion



# Collision avoidance



# Trajectory Tracking



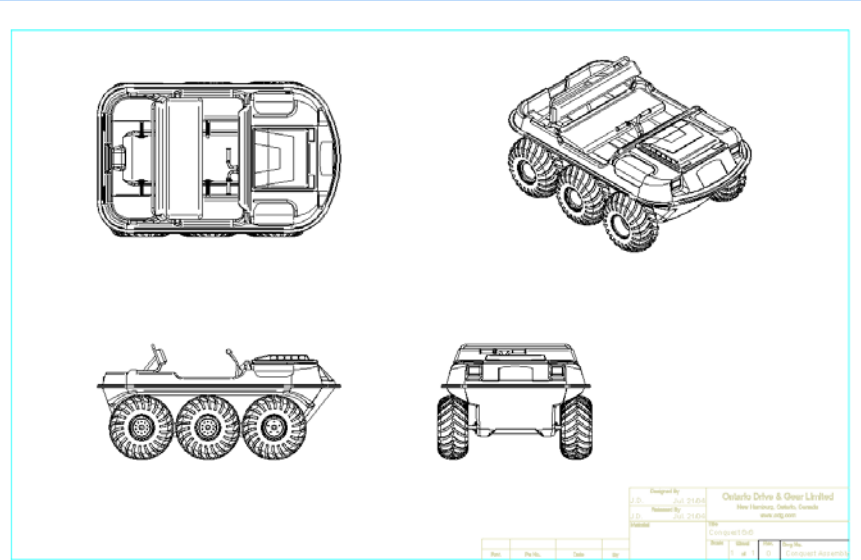


# Mobile robot navigation through two identifiable points

- ▣ Gate passage problem
- ▣ Navigation with vision system

# ARGO 6x6 Conquest

(Ontario Drive & Gear Limited Inc )



- ✓ 6 wheel drive
- ✓ 4 cycle engine with 200 HP
- ✓ 617 cc and load capacity of 700 lbs
- ✓ electronic ignition

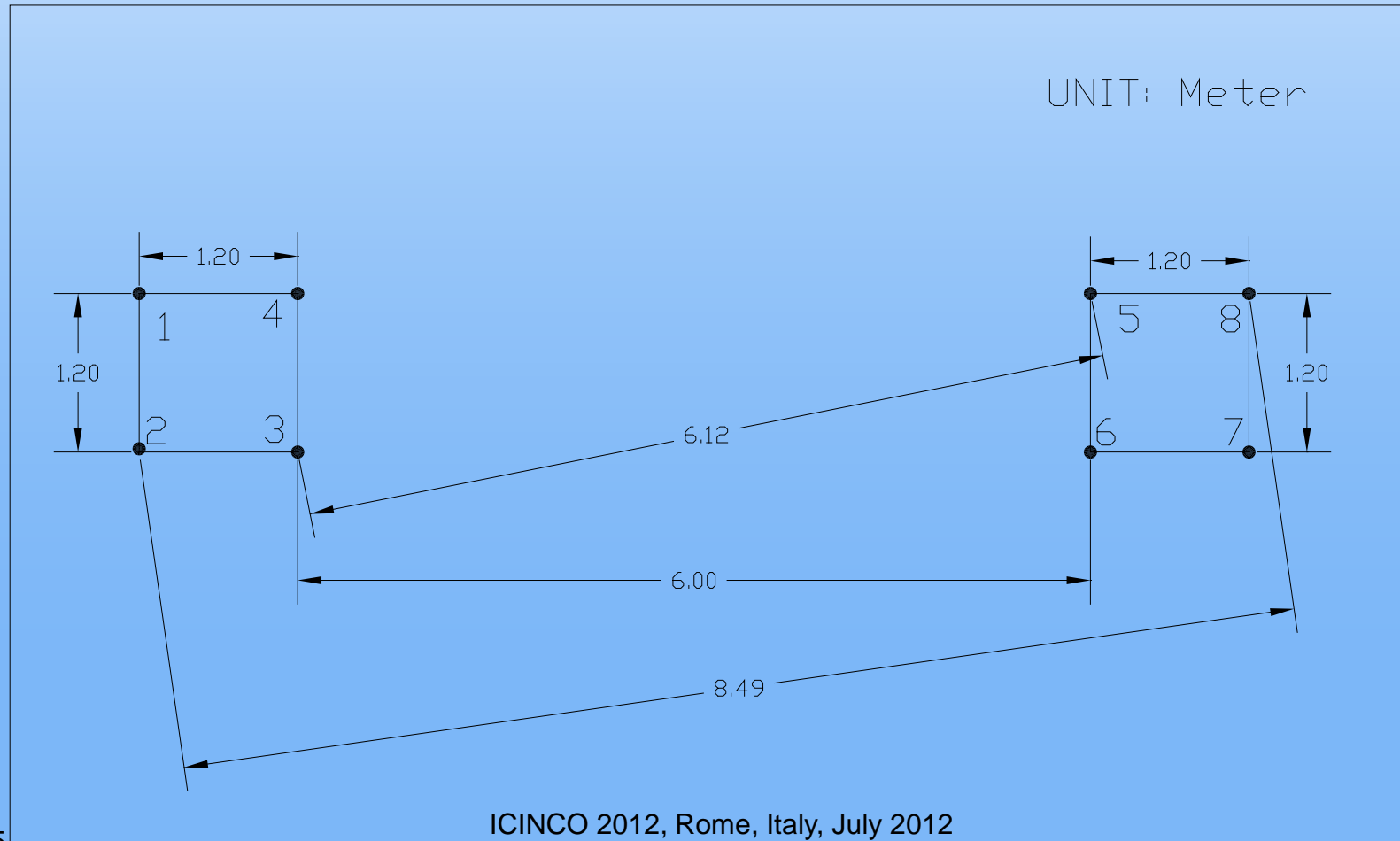
# Equipped Sensors



- ✓ NovAtel GPS,
- ✓ MicroStrain inertial sensor,
- ✓ Built in wheel odometry,
- ✓ LMS-221 laser scanner (SICK)

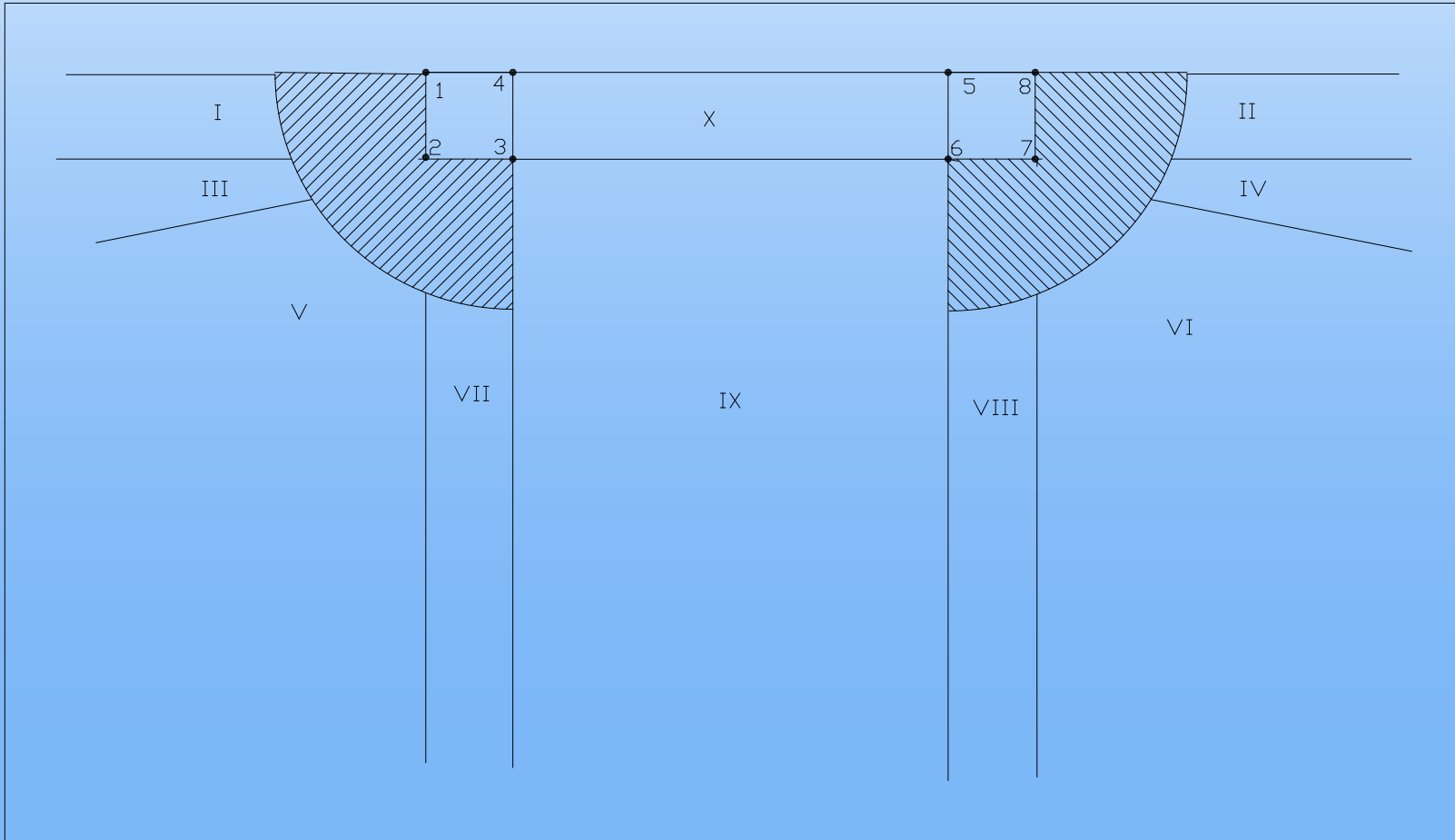


# Gate Recognition





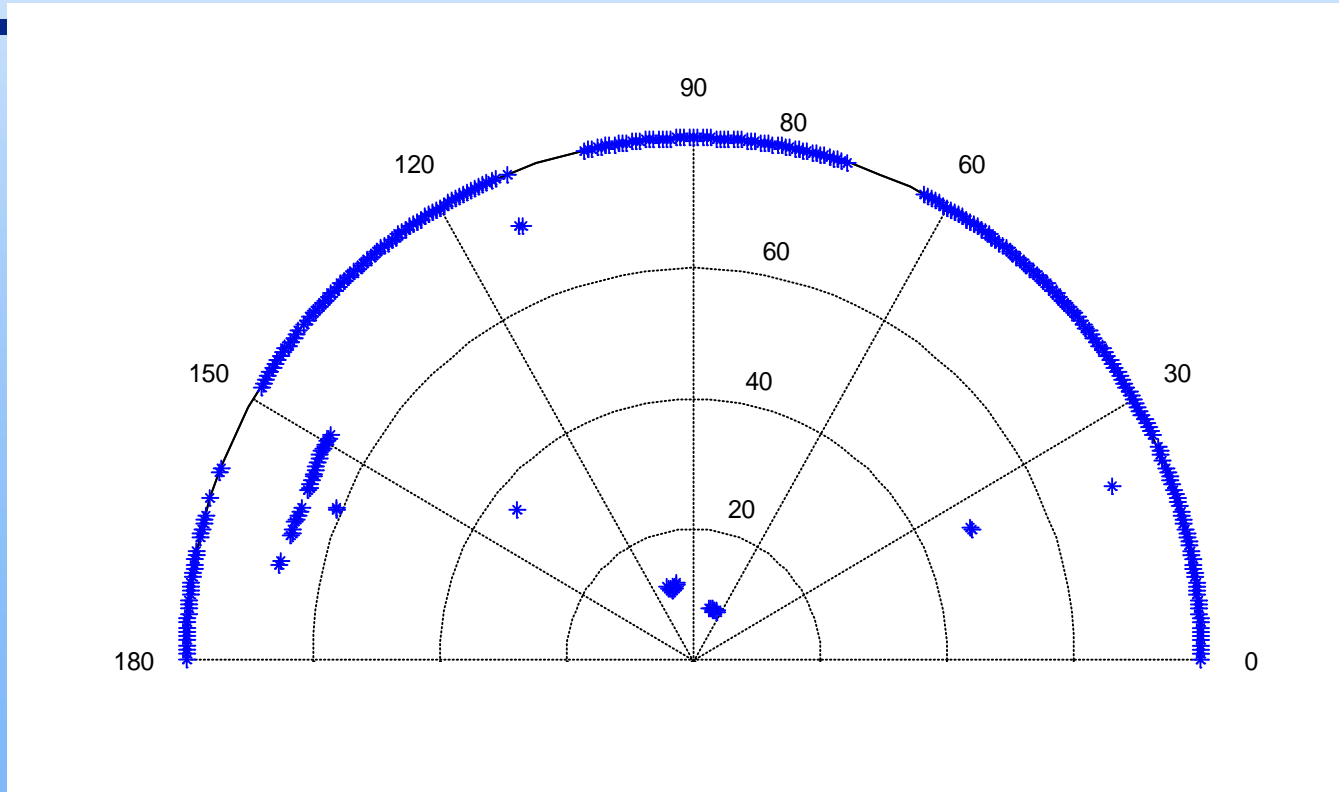
## Zones of Gate Area



# Visibilities of Gate Segments

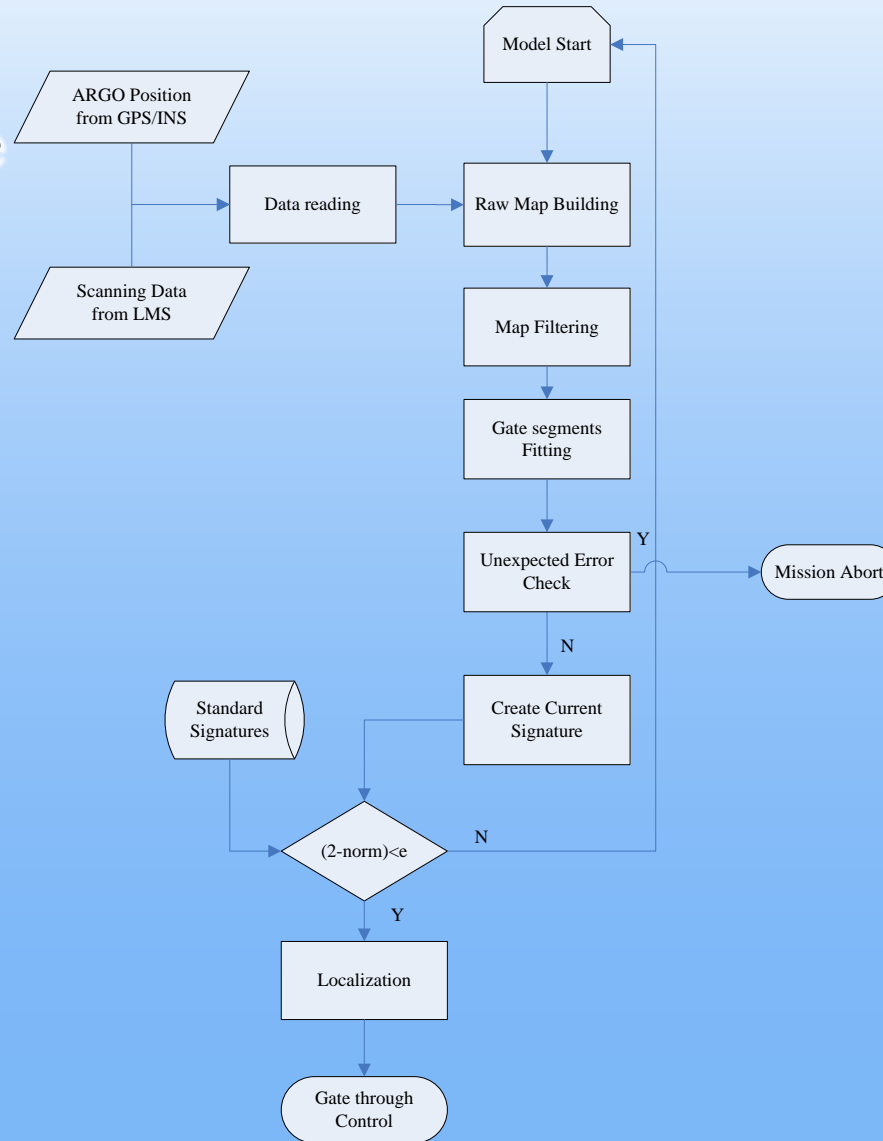
Zone	Gate Segments		Zone
I			II
III	L L	┐ ┌	IV
V	L L	┐ ┌	VI
VII	— L	┐ —	VIII
IX	┐ L		X

# Laser Sensor Scanning



A full scan of  $180^\circ$  provides 361 range values  
(indexed according to a scanning angle)

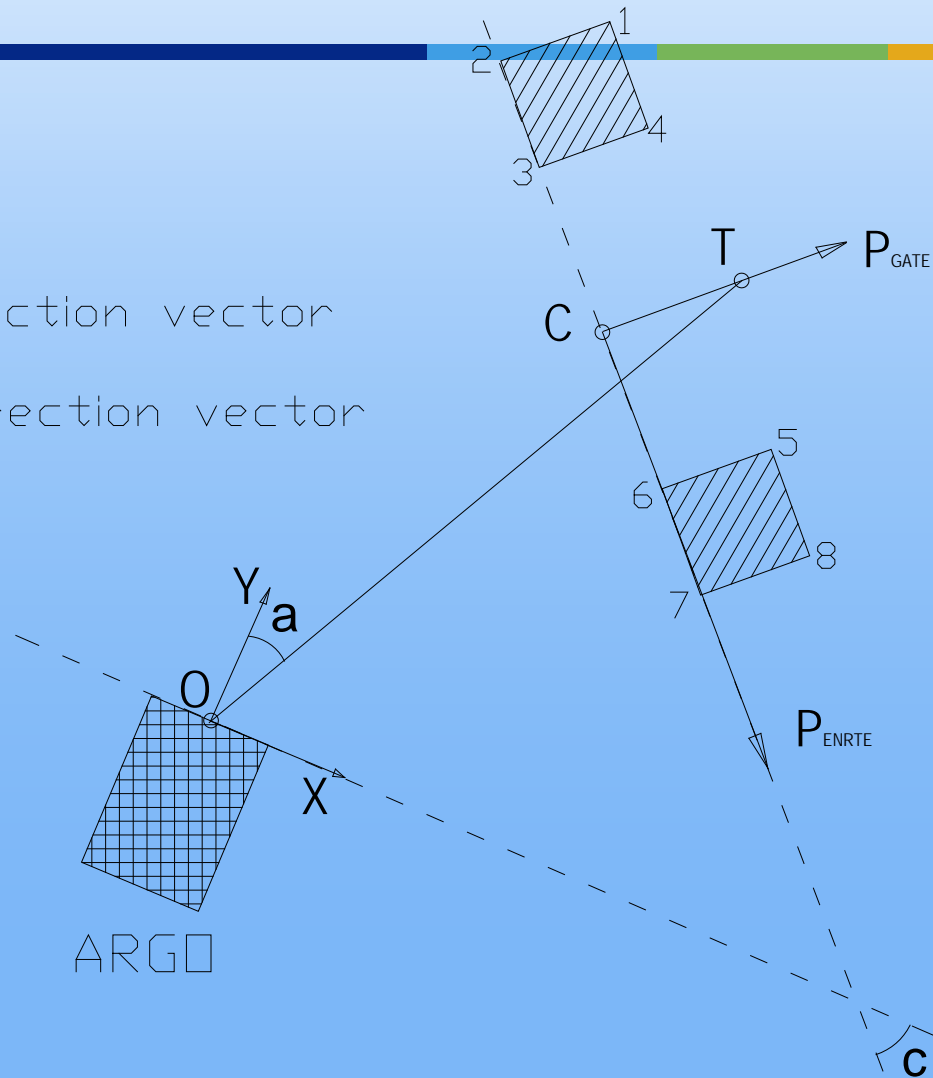
# Flowchart of gate navigation module



# Control System

$P_{GATE}$  Gate direction vector

$P_{ENRTE}$  Enter direction vector





# Parking Control / Astolfi-controller

$$d\rho / dt = -V \cos \alpha$$

$$d\alpha / dt = V \sin \alpha / \rho - \omega$$

$$d\psi / dt = -\omega$$

or

$$V = K_\rho \rho$$

$$\omega = K_1 \alpha + K_2 \psi$$

In x-y coordinate

$$V = K_\rho \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

$$\omega = K_1 \left( \arctan\left(\frac{y}{x}\right) - \theta \right) + K_2 \left( \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \right)$$

$$d\rho / dt = -V \sin \psi \sin(\alpha + \psi)$$

$$d\alpha / dt = V \sin \psi \cos(\alpha + \psi) / \rho - \omega$$

$$d\psi / dt = -\omega$$

After linearization:

$$d\alpha / dt = -K_1\alpha - K_2\psi + K_\rho\psi$$

$$d\psi / dt = -K_1\alpha - K_2\psi$$

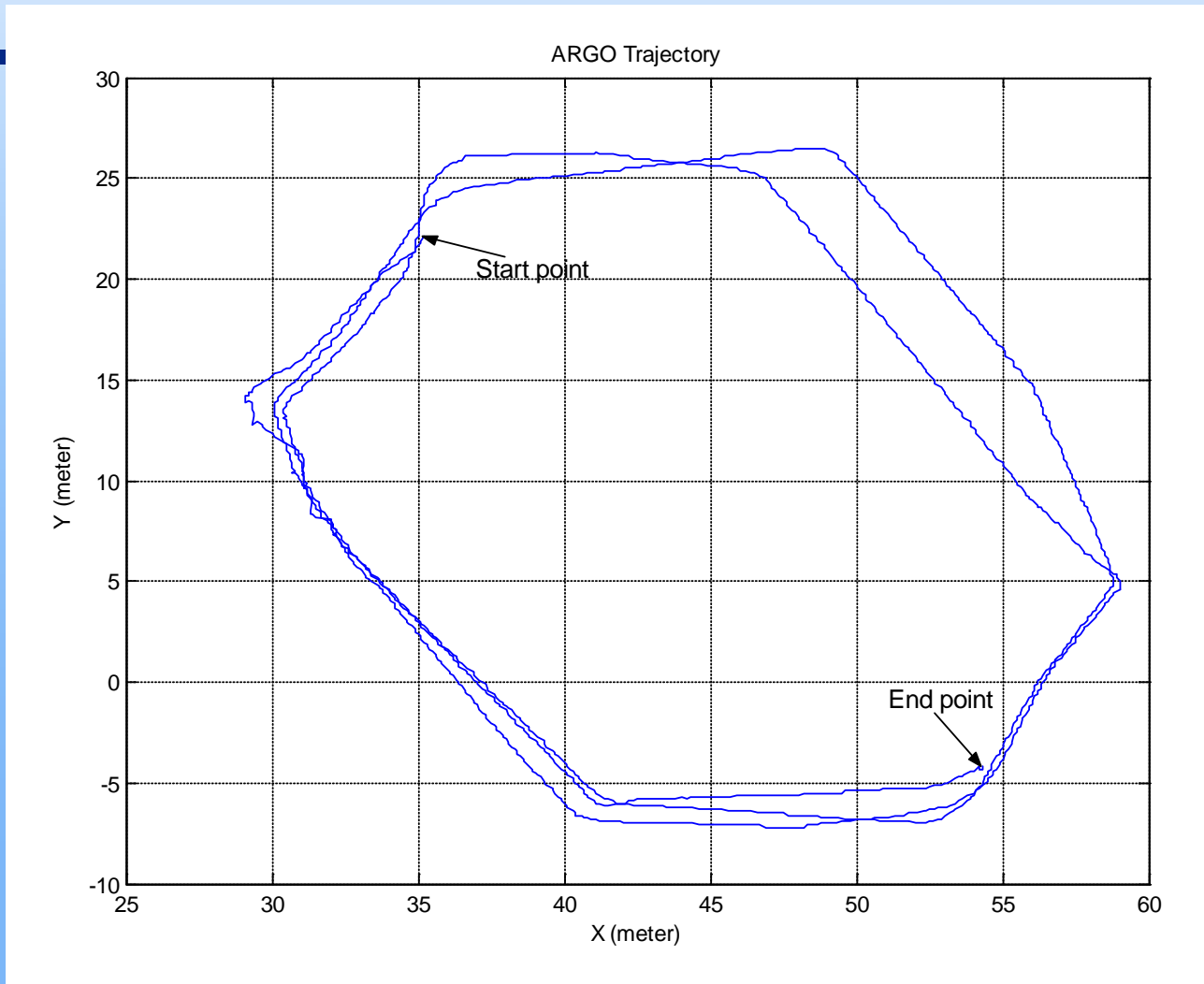
The control law is:  $\omega = -K_1\alpha - K_2\psi$

The gains are experimentally set to  $K_\rho = 0.1; K_1 = 0.9; K_2 = -0.4$

$\alpha$  is estimated online by sensing .

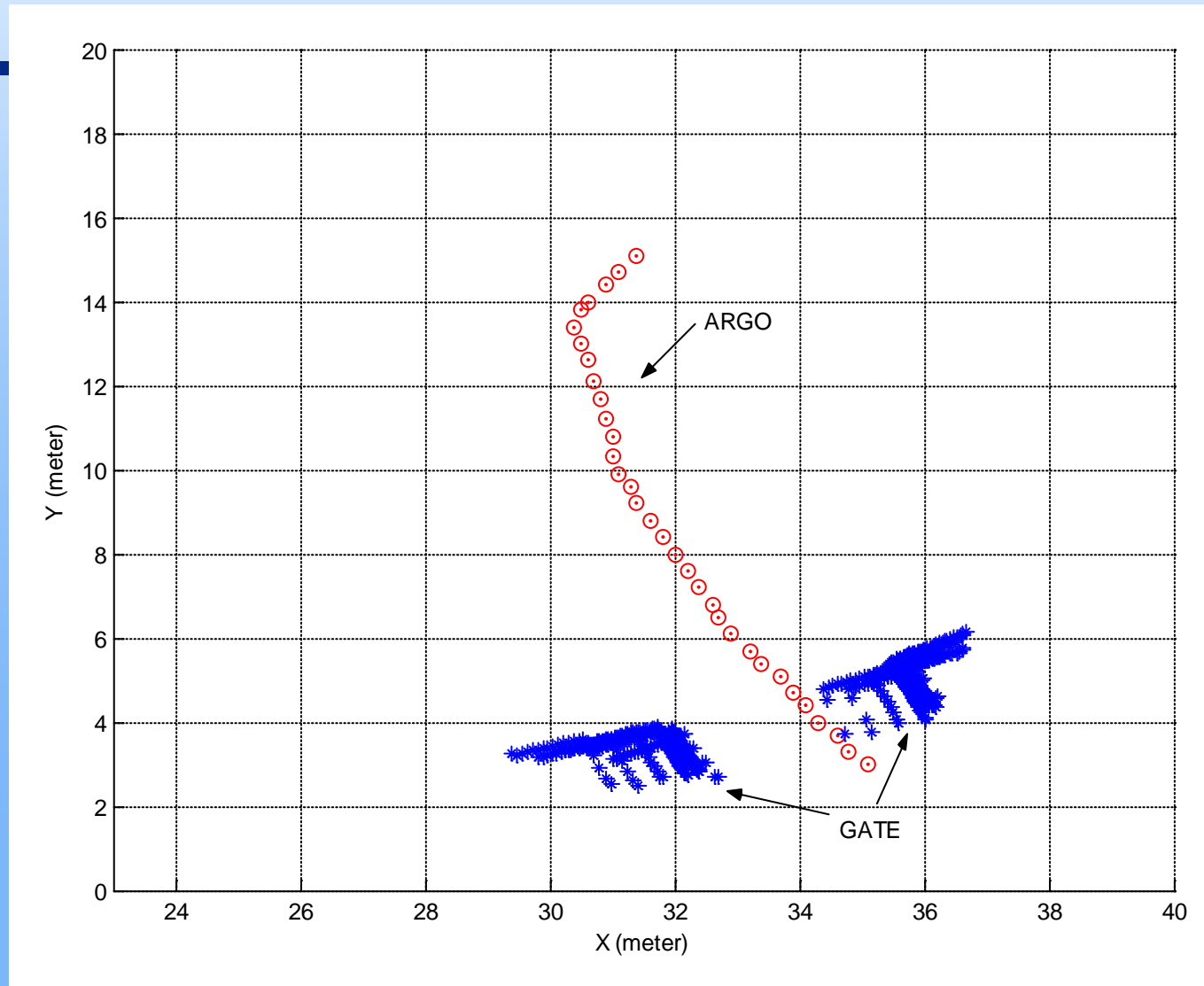
# Navigation

## Experimental results



# Gate Through Navigation

## Experimental results



# Gate Through Navigation

## Experimental results





# Experimental results 2

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**Video 3**

**Video 4**

# Particle Filtering

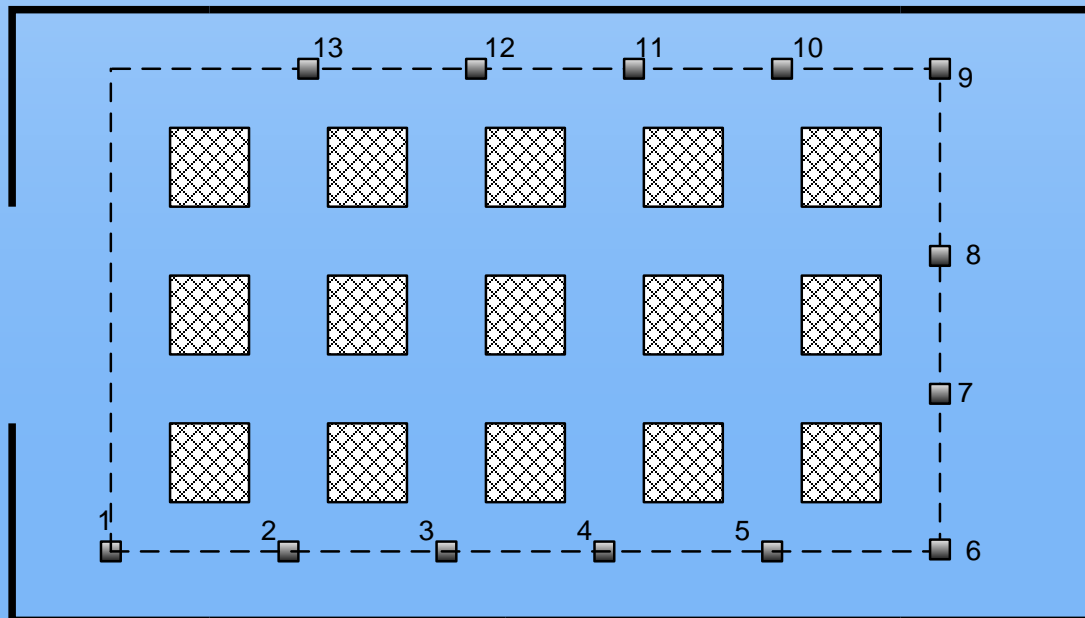
- ❑ to estimate the robot pose:
  - measurements (scanning) from the SICK sensor are compared with the map scanning results
- ❑ robot pose estimation by particle filtering is suitable for this problem:
  - a set of hypotheses (particles) about the robot's pose or about the locations of the objects around the robot are maintained

# Particle Filtering

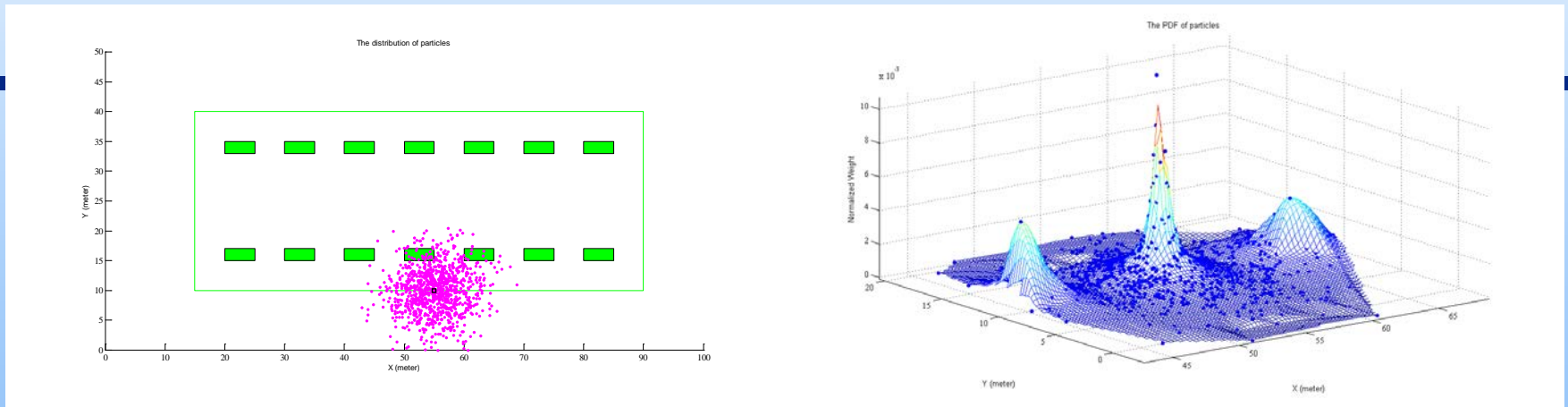
- particle filtering algorithm is divided into four steps:
  - initial sampling;
  - prediction;
  - update;
  - re-sampling

# Simulations

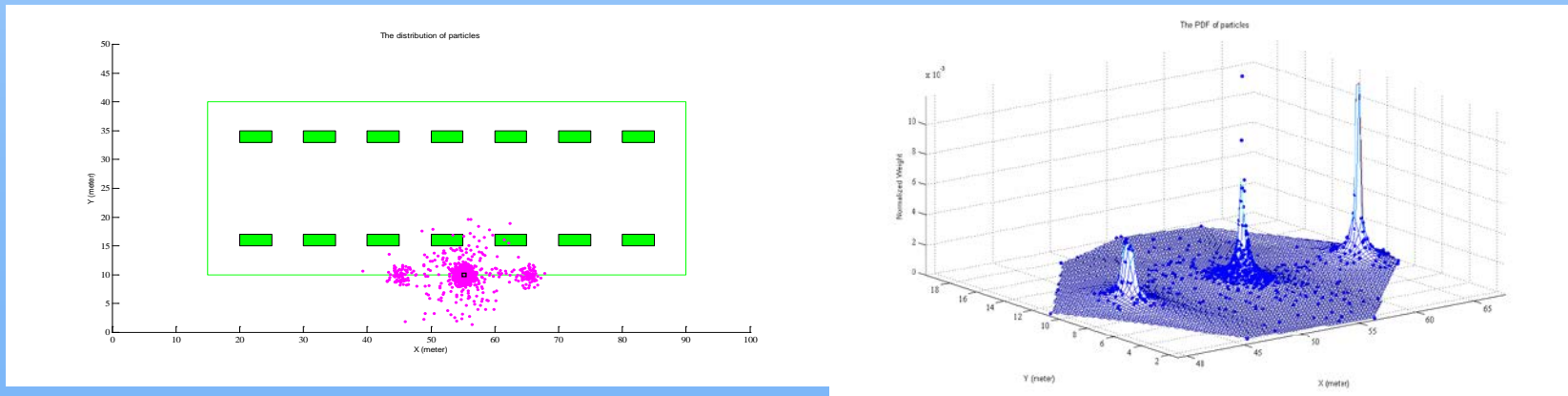
The robot running along the desired patrolling path is simulated. It is assumed that the robot has the pose information from GPS/Odometry sensor and the LRS supplies the scan data. Also, the a priori map of the environment is supposed to be known and is used to obtain the reference scan data. The robot starts from a point in the bottom edge and runs in anti-clockwise direction.



# Localization with Particle Filtering



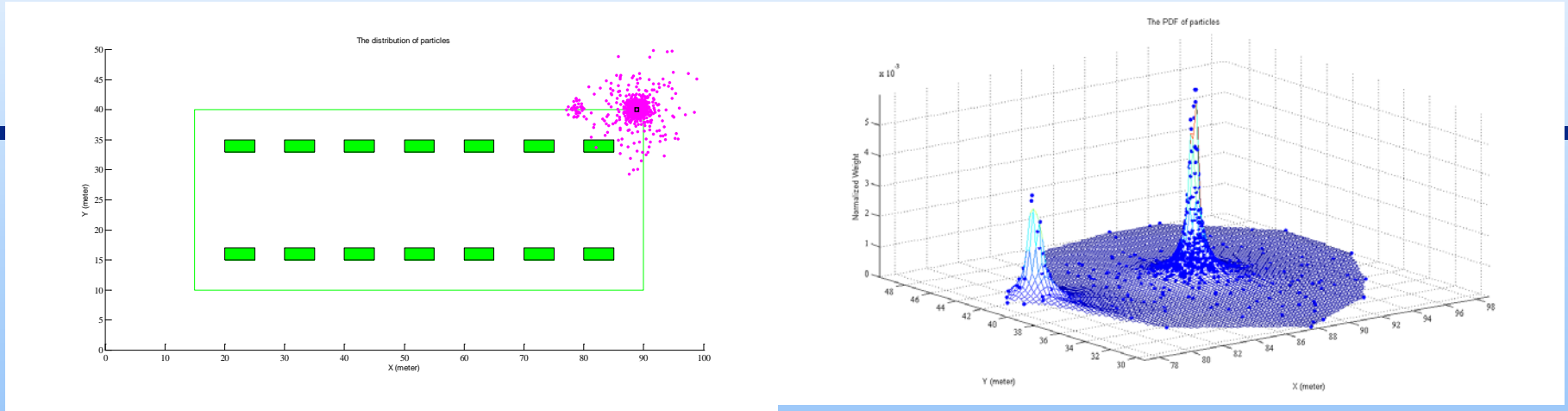
Simulation of particle filtering – initial distribution



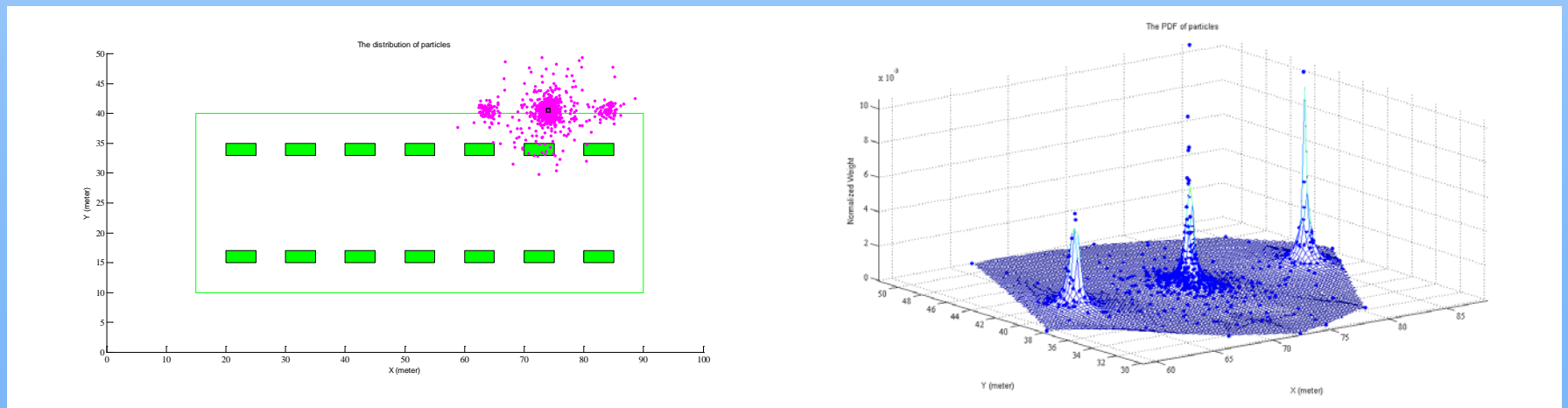
Simulation of particle filtering – re-sampling



# Localization with Particle Filtering



Simulation of particle filtering – re-sampling



Simulation of particle filtering – re-sampling

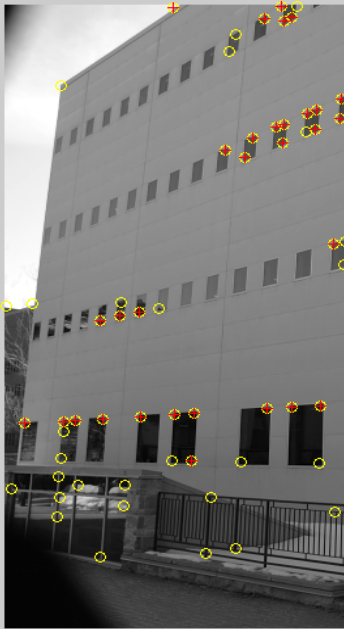
# Mobile Robot Navigation Using Vision

- objective
  - achieve accurate rover navigation in crowded environments
  - accurate positioning, localization, and mapping
  - fusion of odometry, inertial navigation unit (INU), and vision data,

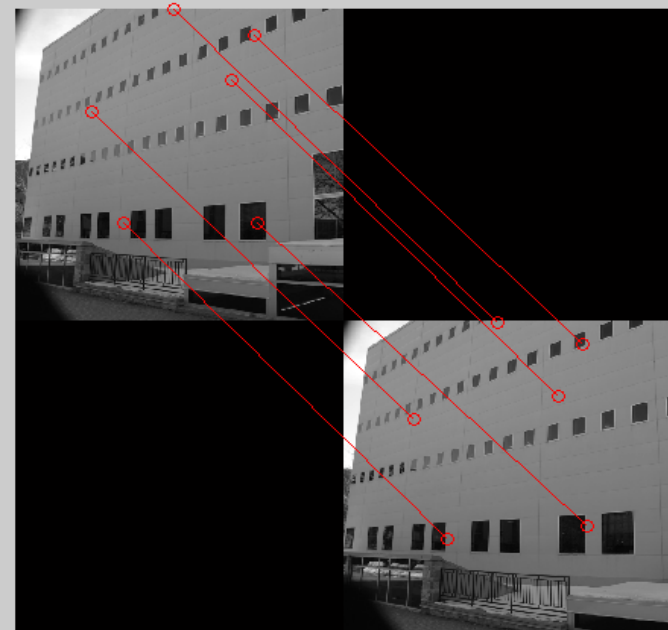
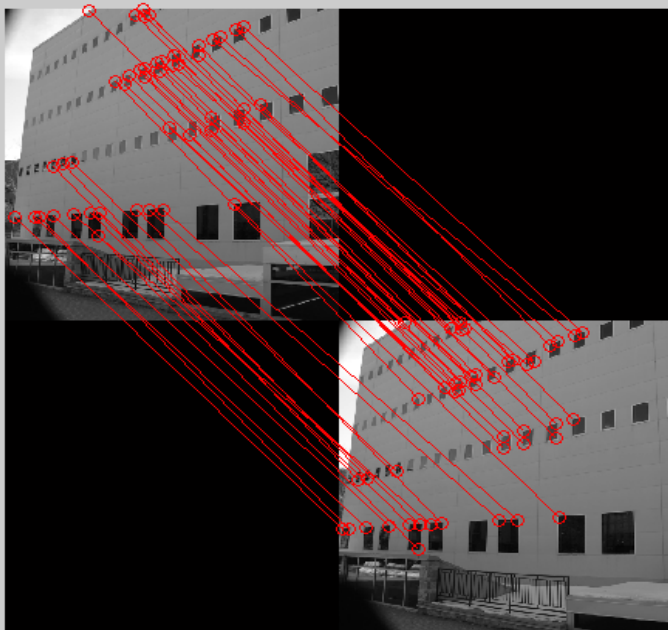
# Robot Navigation Using Vision

- ❑ cameras are carried by robots
  - can cameras be used for accurate navigation?
  
- ❑ robot position and pose come from rotation and translation of fixed camera
  
- ❑ key initial operation
  - identification and localization of points-of-interest

# Navigation with vision system



# Navigation with vision images - correspondences





# UAV Navigation Using Vision

- one camera
  - motion can be derived from geometrical considerations if camera view is of points on a plane
- two cameras
  - image depth can be derived
  - rotation and translation can be derived using iterative closest point algorithm

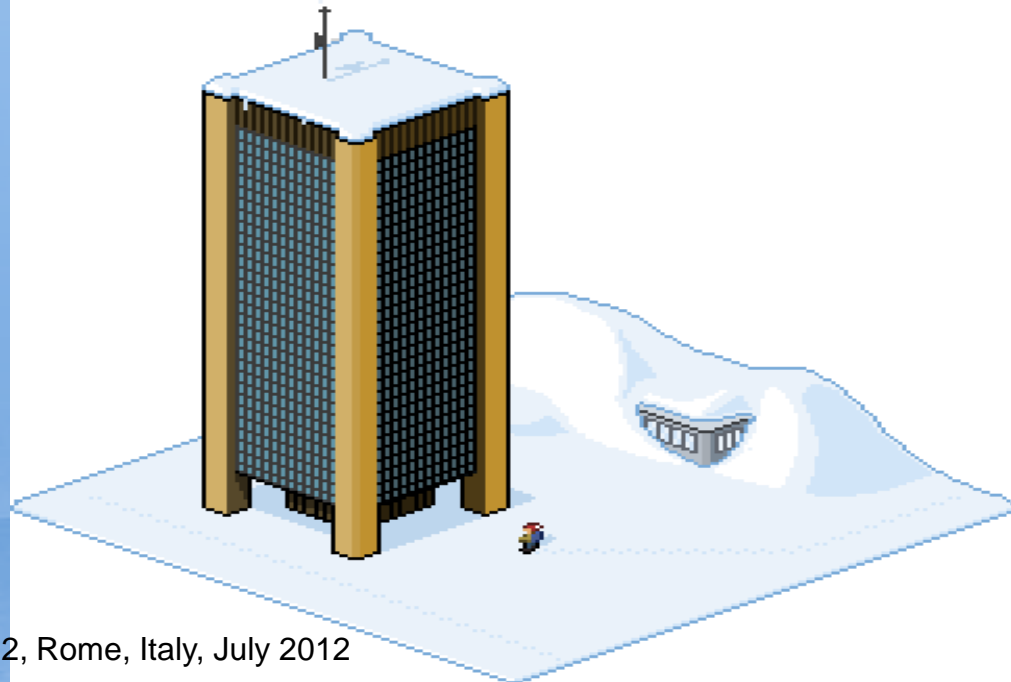
# Autonomous Vehicle Using SLAM

## □ Objective

- to develop an efficient navigation method for autonomous robots based on SLAM and Rao-Blackwellised particle filtering with the following considerations
  - Data association
  - Computational complexity
  - Non-linear motion and sensor models

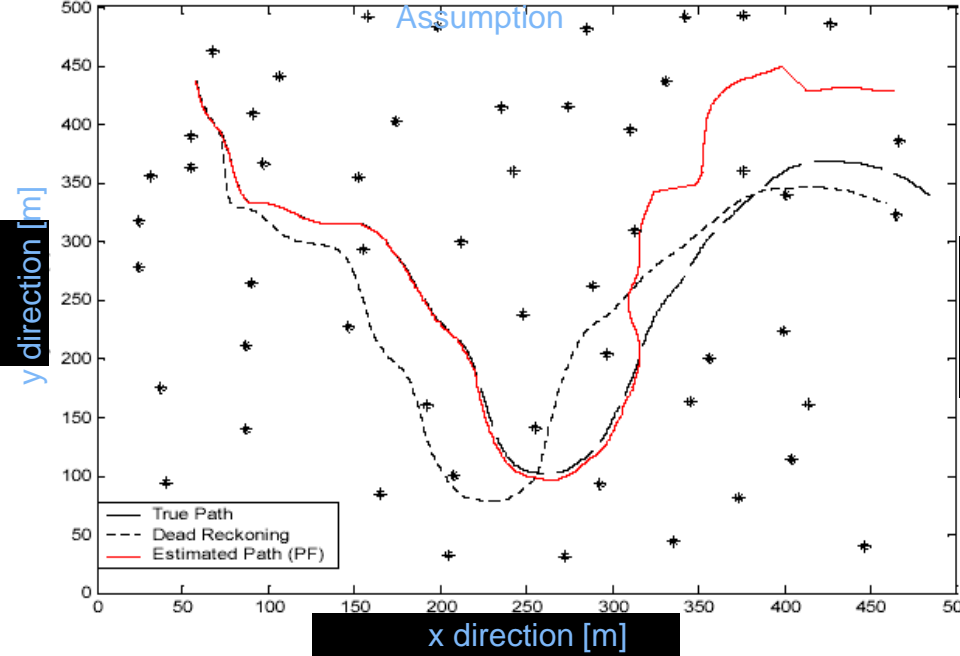
# Simultaneous Localization and Mapping

- what does the environment look like?
- where am I?
- where am I supposed to go?
- how can I get there?

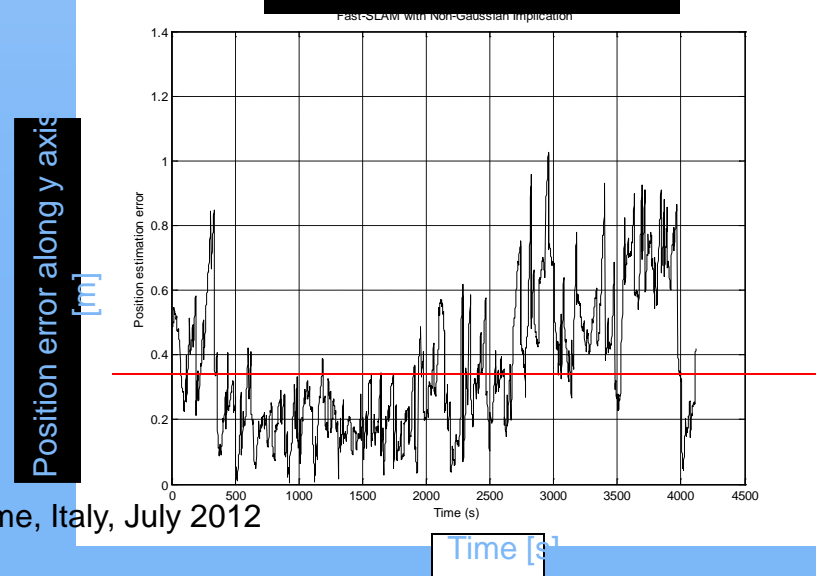
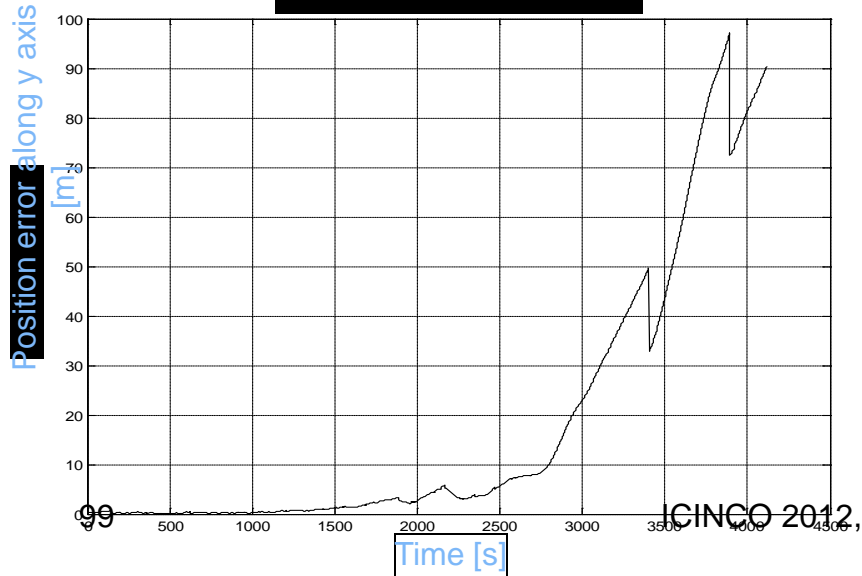
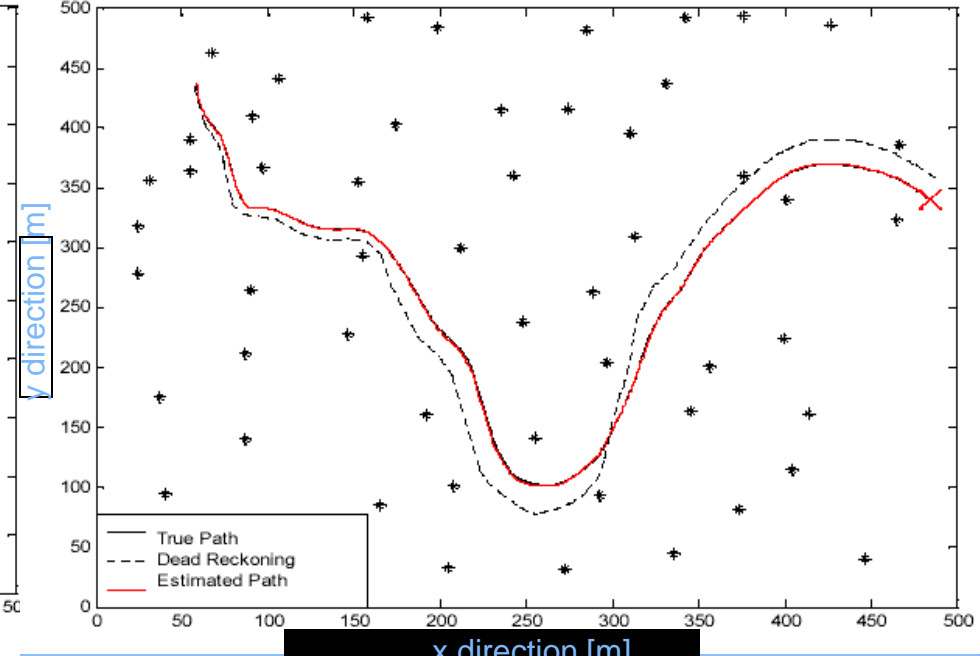


# A Comparison between EKF-SLAM and Fast-SLAM

EKF-SLAM with Gaussian Assumption



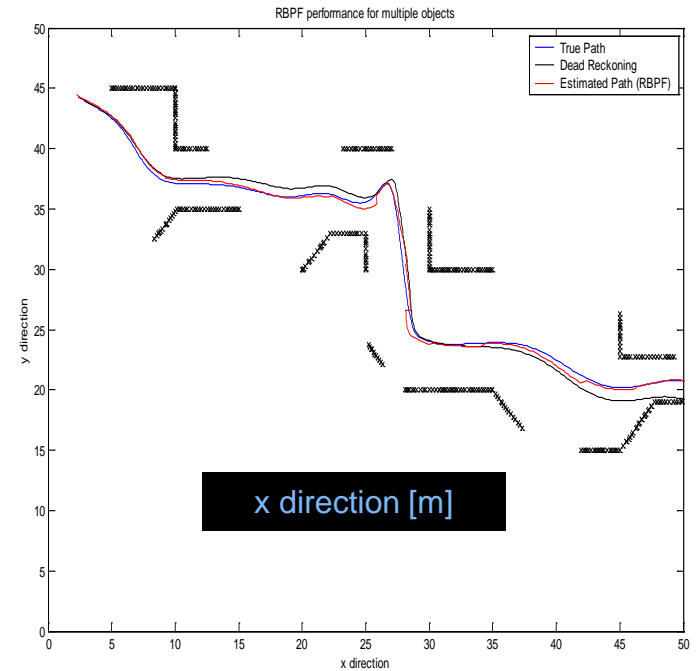
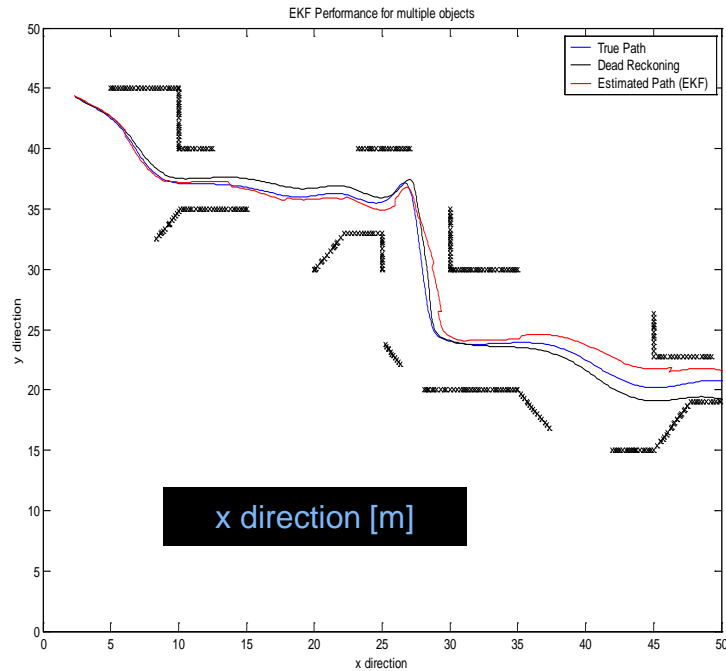
Fast-SLAM with Non-Gaussian Assumption



# FAST-SLAM Vs. EKF-SLAM in a Dense Map for Multiple Objects (750 Landmarks)

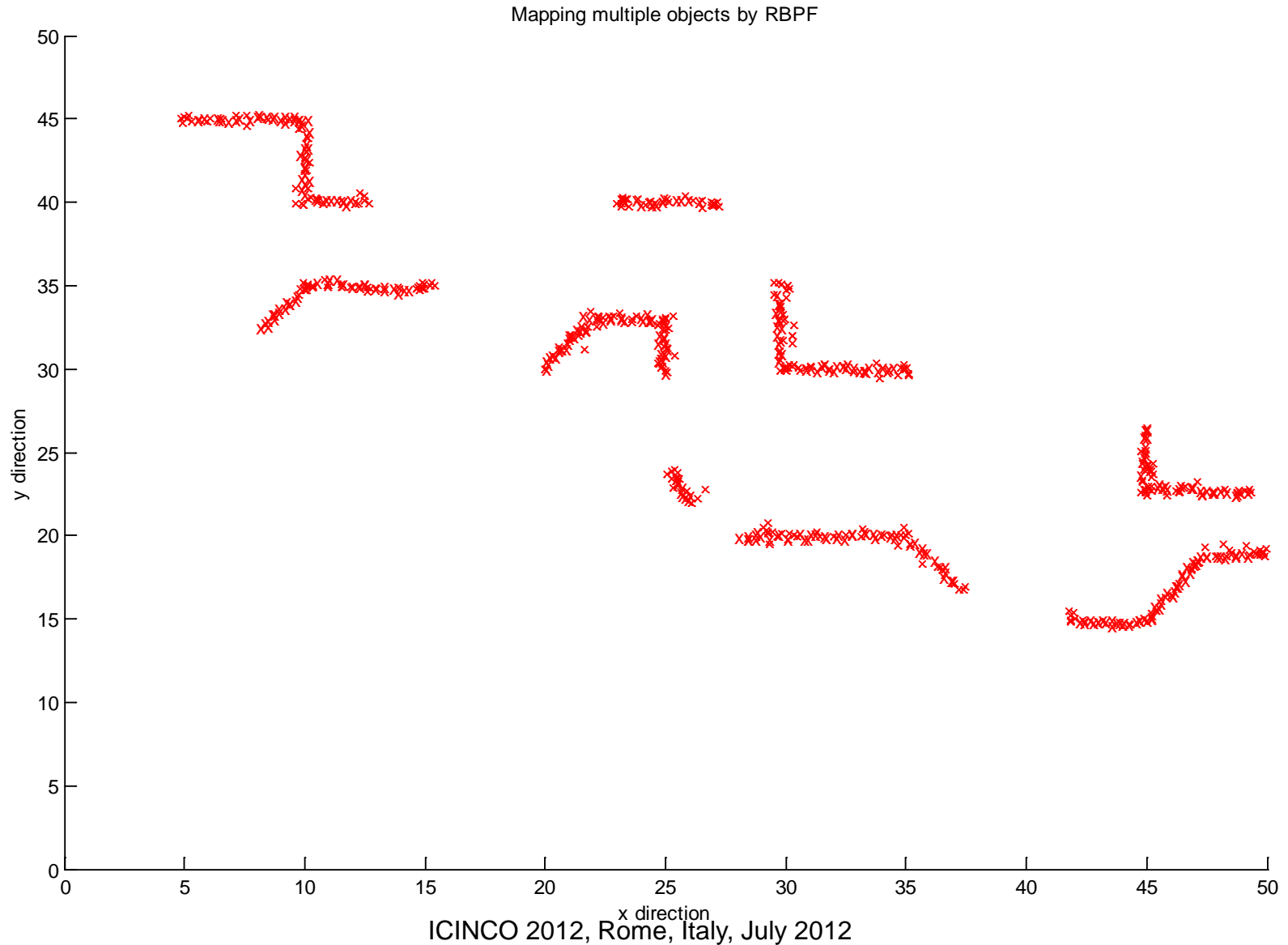
EKF-SLAM

FAST-SLAM

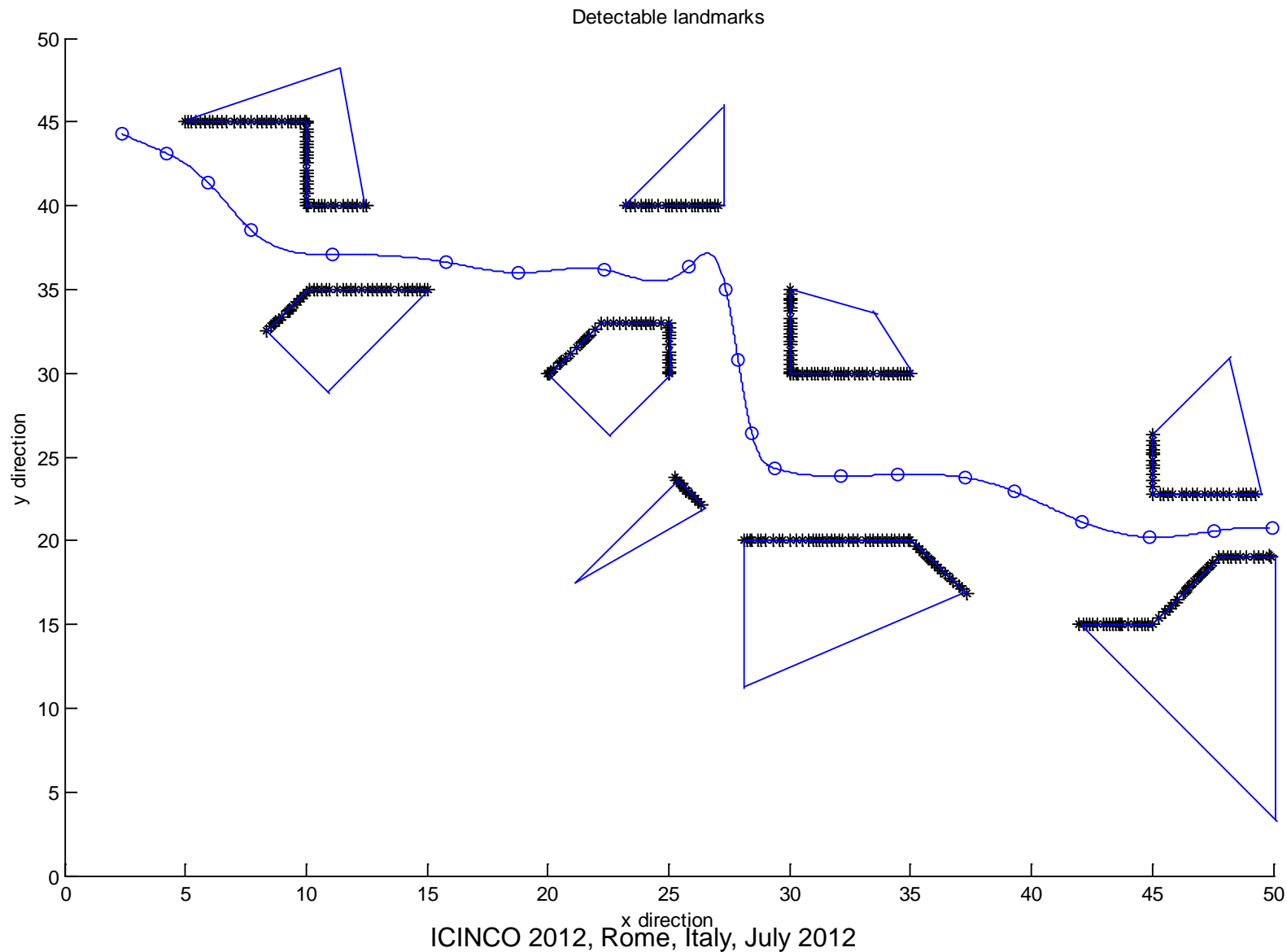




# Fast-SLAM vs. EKF-SLAM in a Dense Map for Multiple Objects (750 Landmarks)



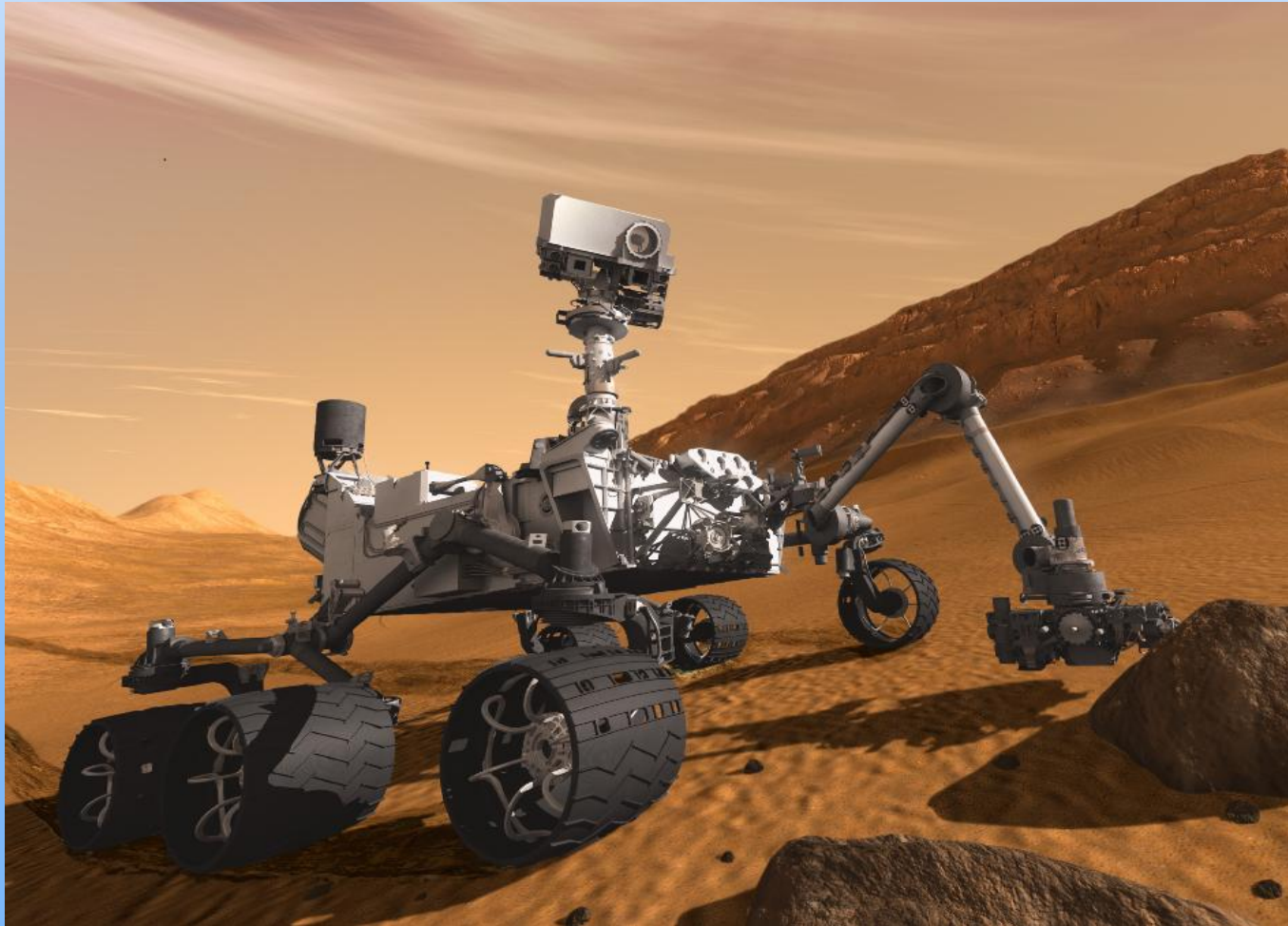
# FAST-SLAM Vs. EKF-SLAM in a Dense Map for Multiple Objects (750 Landmarks)



# Conclusions

- Space robotics includes many control challenges;
- Present applications of robots in Space are not fully autonomous;
- Full autonomous operations should be our objective.

# Follow your Curiosity!



# Acknowledgement

- ▣ Images courtesy of Canadian Space Agency and NASA or from sites:
- ▣ [www.csa.ca](http://www.csa.ca)
- ▣ [www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov)
- ▣ [www.oldrobots.com](http://www.oldrobots.com)

# Thank you !

Questions?