

# SCUTTLE Robot Kinematics Guide

revised 2021.11.11

Copyright David Malawey 2021





# SCUTTLE Kinematics

This guide covers:

- **Robot geometry**,  $r$ , and  $L$
- **Key variables**:  $\phi$ ,  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $\theta$
- **Kinematic equation**: convert wheel speeds to chassis speeds
- **Inverse Kinematic equation**: convert chassis speeds to wheel speeds
- **Time-derivatives** of the wheel and chassis displacements
- **Rotation matrix** to convert body-fixed coordinates to global coordinates

# SCUTTLE Coordinates

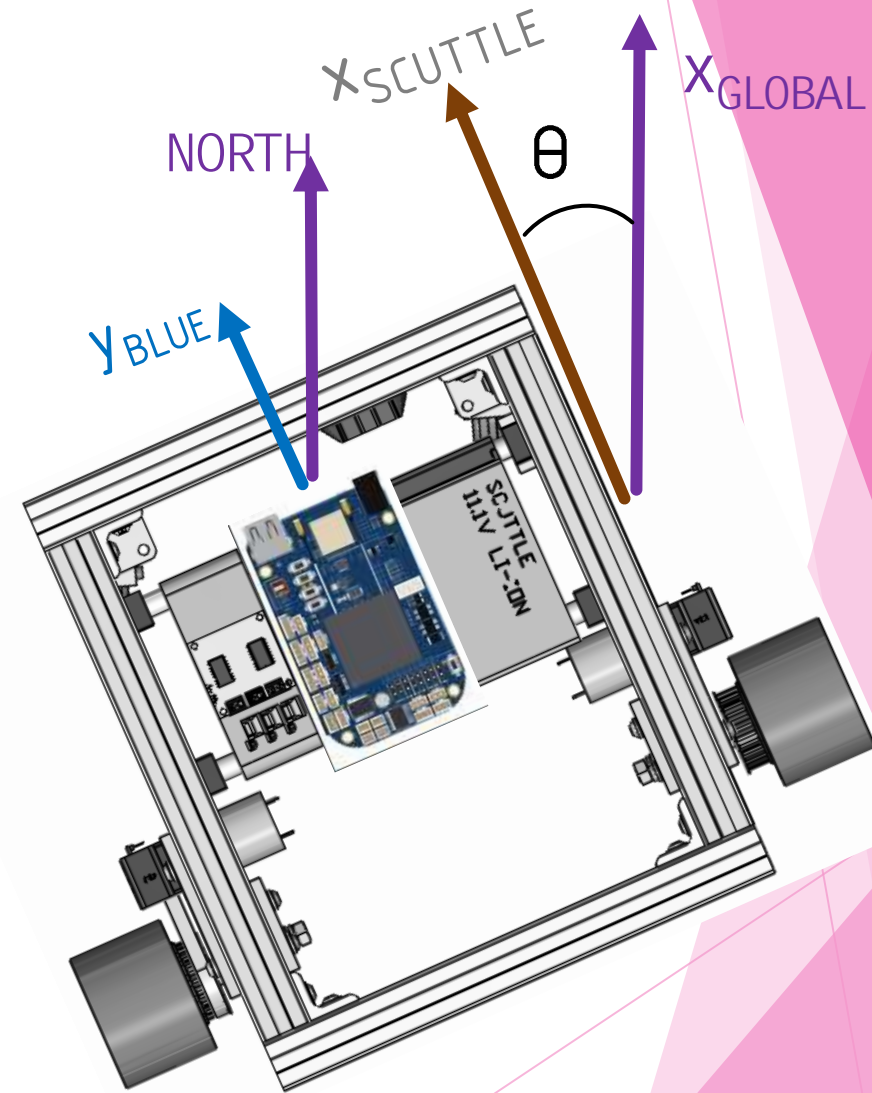


This slide is for reference.

The beagle circuit board has an IMU with y-axis pointing along the USB port.

The global x- is often decided to be aligned with magnetic North.

The SCUTTLE body-fixed X vector is aligned with the forward direction.



# SCUTTLE: a Non-Holonomic System



A holonomic robot has the same number (or more) of controllable degrees of freedom as the number of degrees of freedom.

SCUTTLE DOF: (x, y, theta)

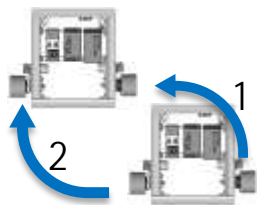
CONTROLLABLE DOF: (left motor, right motor)

Mecanum Robot DOF: (x,y,theta)

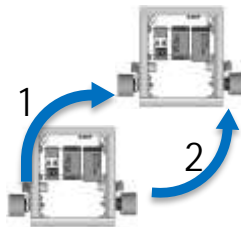
In a non-holonomic system, the final position of the robot depends on the path taken to achieve the movement.

Example:

Move right wheel, then left



Move left wheel, then Right



Suitable for  
beginners



**Holonomic:**

Easier navigation  
More parts  
Less robust



Requires knowledge  
of kinematics



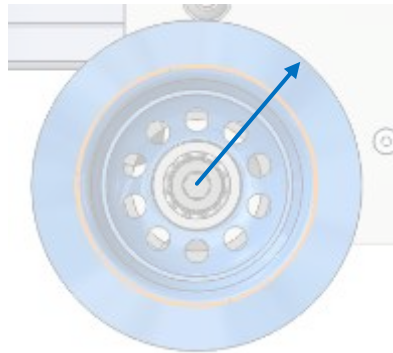
**Non-Holonomic:**

Harder navigation  
Fewer parts  
More robust

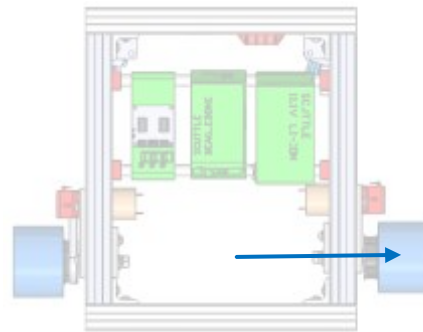


# SCUTTLE Kinematics

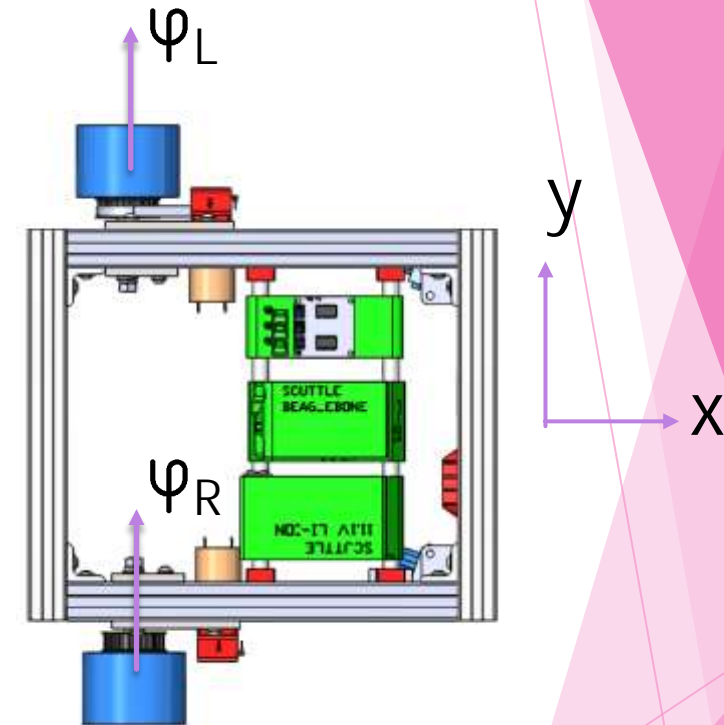
- The **Chassis Geometry** determines the equations for kinematics.
- The **radius**,  $r$ , is the radius of the driven wheel
- The **half-wheelbase**<sup>(1)</sup>,  $L$ , is the space from wheel center to center divided in two



$R = 41 \text{ mm}$



$L = 201 \text{ mm}$  <sup>(1)</sup>





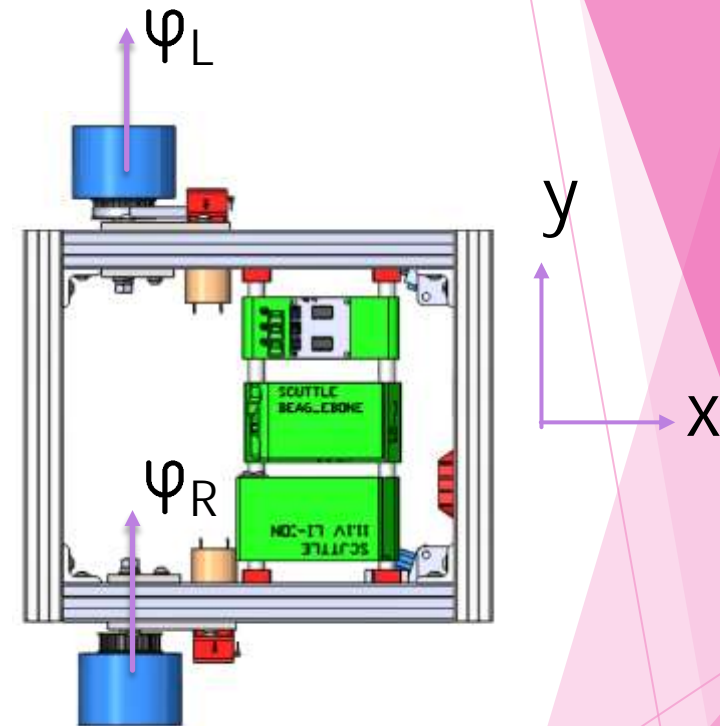
# SCUTTLE Kinematics

- **Phi dot** is the derivative of phi with respect to time.

$$\dot{\psi}_L = \text{pdl}, \text{ as in } \text{phi\_dot\_l}$$

$$\dot{\psi}_R = \text{pdr}, \text{ as in } \text{phi\_dot\_r}$$

`phiDots = np.array( [ pdl, pdr ] )` # python  
syntax

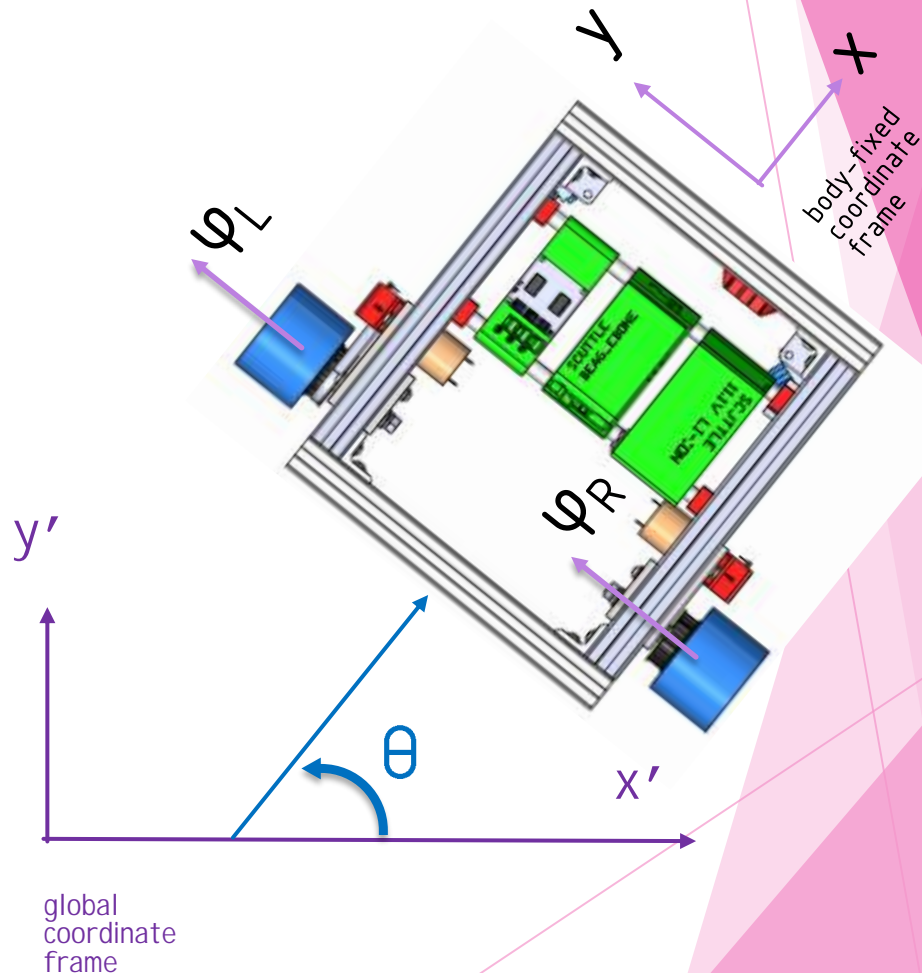




# SCUTTLE Kinematics

- **Theta** describes the difference between the body-fixed frame and the global frame.
- The **rotation matrix** converts body-fixed coordinates to the global coordinates

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta) & -\sin(\theta) \\ \sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_{bf} \\ y_{bf} \end{bmatrix}$$

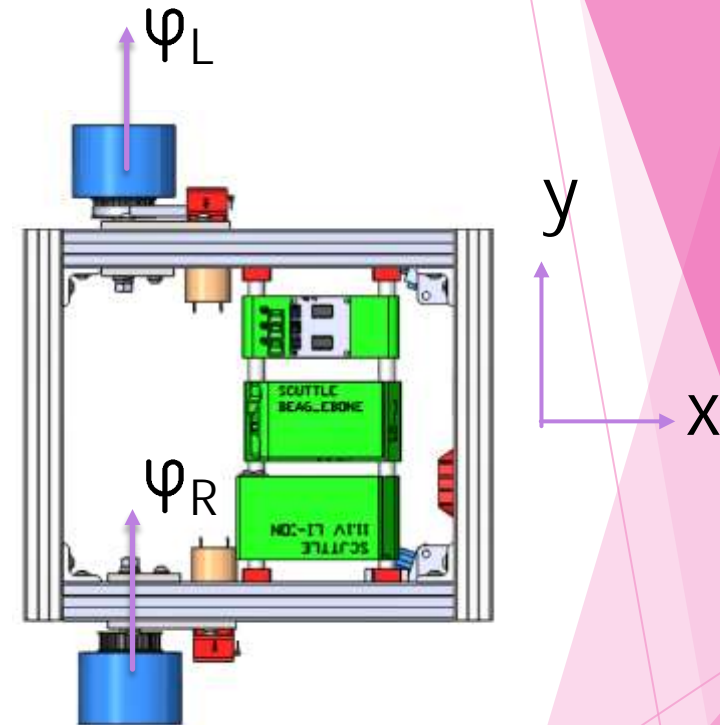




# SCUTTLE Kinematics

- Phi is the angle of the wheel.
  - It is used to define incremental changes in wheel position and to calculate wheel speeds
- The x,y coordinate system has x pointing forward on the bot.
  - Positive movement of both phi's result in positive movement of the robot along the x-direction
- The Kinematic Equation generates chassis motion information.
  - input the wheel speeds and output the (translational and rotational) chassis speeds

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{\theta} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R/2 & R/2 \\ -R/2L & R/2L \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\phi}_L \\ \dot{\phi}_R \end{bmatrix}$$





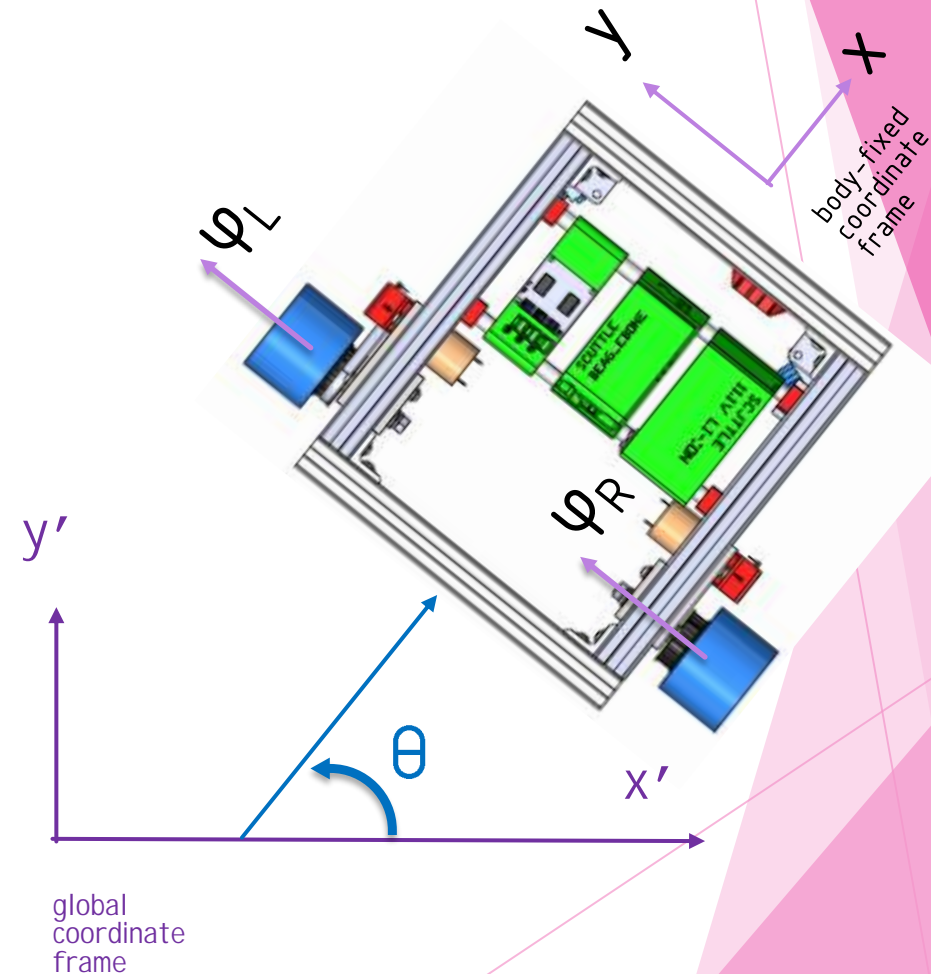
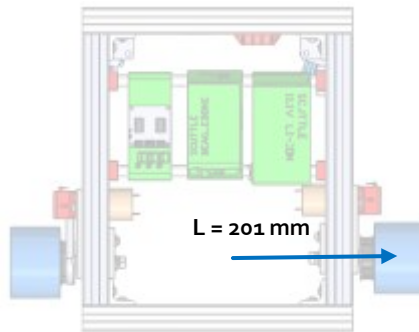
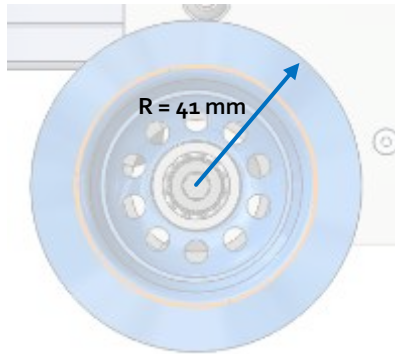
# SCUTTLE Kinematics



- Inverse Kinematic equation:
  - Input the desired speed and angular speed, and output the left and right wheel speeds.
  - These equations are written in the robot-fixed frame

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\phi}_L \\ \dot{\phi}_R \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/R & -L/R \\ 1/R & L/R \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{\theta} \end{bmatrix}$$

matrix multiplication:  $[C] = [A][B]$





# SCUTTLE Kinematics

- Comparing forward and inverse kinematics:

“Kinematics”

Use the **wheel** speeds to obtain the **chassis** speeds

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{\theta} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R/2 & R/2 \\ -R/2L & R/2L \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\phi}_L \\ \dot{\phi}_R \end{bmatrix}$$

Solve for

“Inverse Kinematics”

Use the **chassis** speeds to obtain the **wheel** speeds

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\phi}_L \\ \dot{\phi}_R \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/R & -L/R \\ 1/R & L/R \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{\theta} \end{bmatrix}$$

Solve for



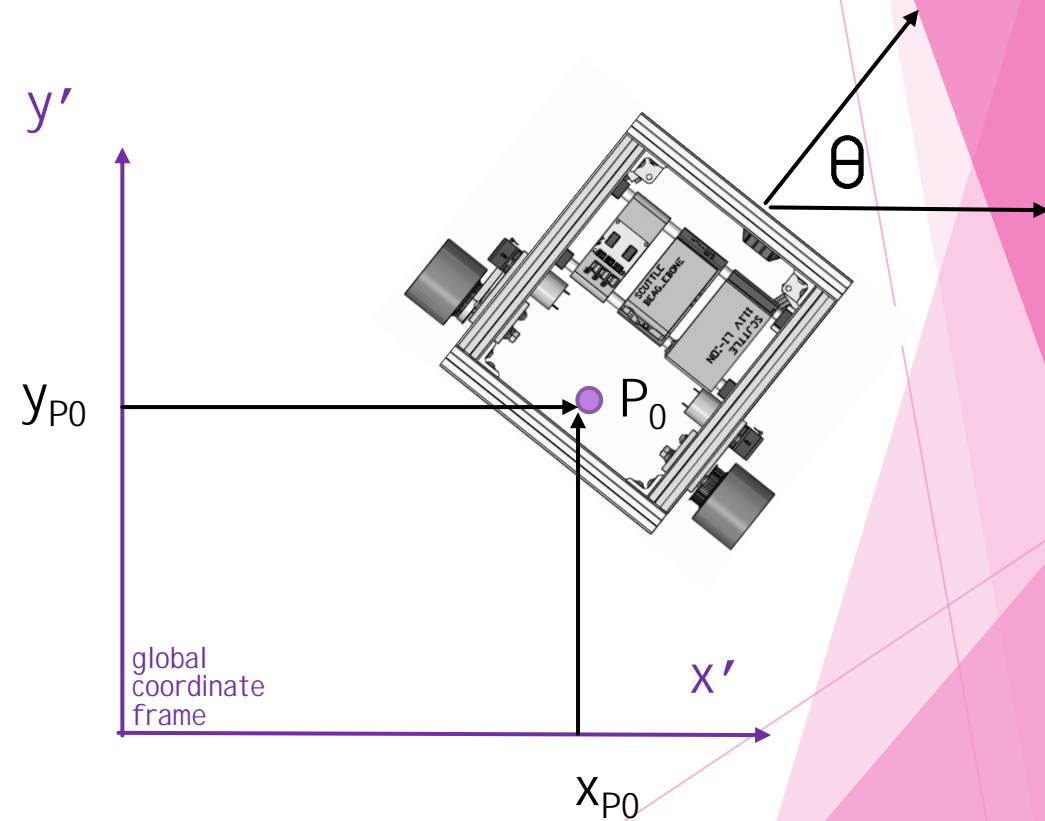
# SCUTTLE Kinematics (prt 2)

This section will be expanded to discuss navigation

Describing the robot in the inertial (global) frame:

- $P_0$  describes the location of the robot and is defined by the center of the wheelbase.

$$q^I = \begin{bmatrix} x_a \\ y_a \\ \theta \end{bmatrix}$$





# Kinematics Footnotes

- 1) The true wheelbase is determined by the contact patch of the wheels on the ground.
  - Most wheels have a draw angle from the manufacturing die, resulting in a larger inner diameter.
  - Then, the contact patch may lie closer to the robot center, especially with no payload.
  - The inner-most contact patch yields a 355mm wheelbase.
  - The wheelbase may change when a heavy load compresses the urethane.

