Sensors and Actuators used in Robotics



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Classification of sensors:

Internal sensors: required for the basic working of a robot. They are used to monitor the internal state of the robot e.g. position, velocity etc.

External sensors: for interaction with the environment.

Internal sensors:

- Position
- Velocity
- Acceleration

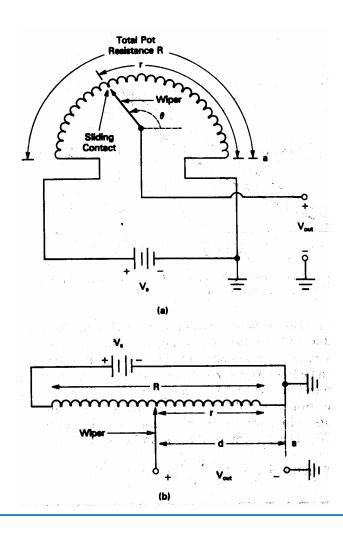
e.g. potentiometers, encoders, LVDT, Tachometers, Accelerometers

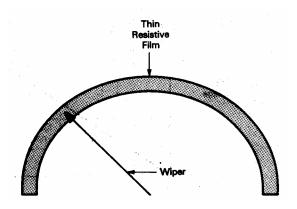
External sensors:

- Touch
- Force
- Pressure
- Slip
- Proximity

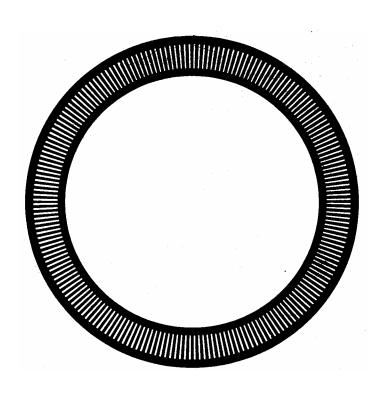
e.g. on/off switches, ultrasonic, force sensor, hall effect, inductive sensor, piezo sensor

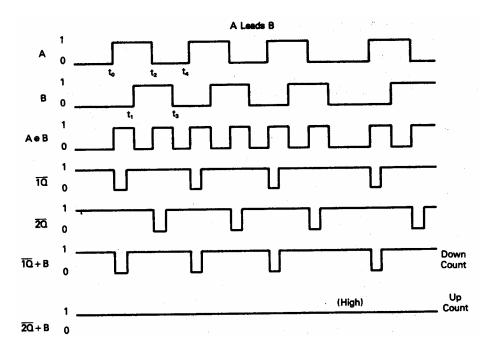
Position Sensor: Potentiometer



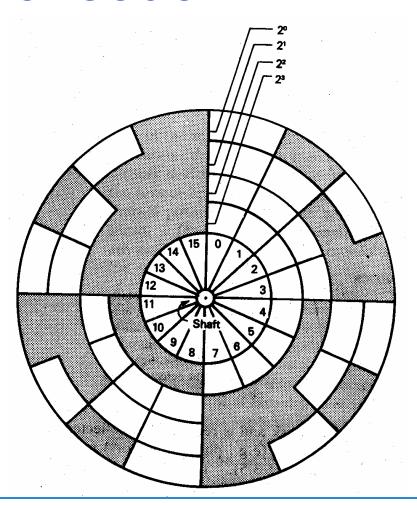


Position sensor: Incremental Encoder

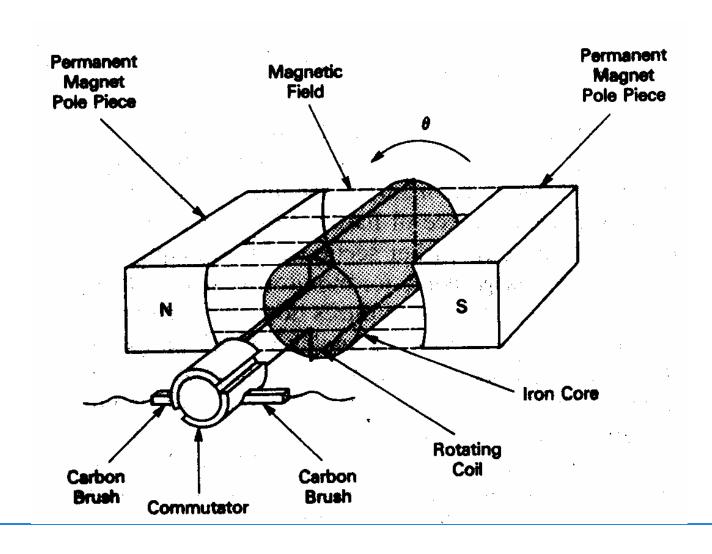




Position sensor: Absolute encoder



Velocity and acceleration sensors



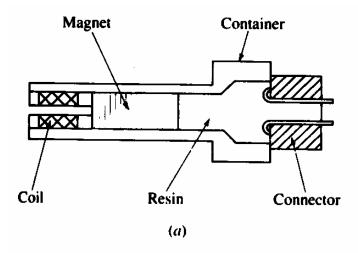
Touch sensors

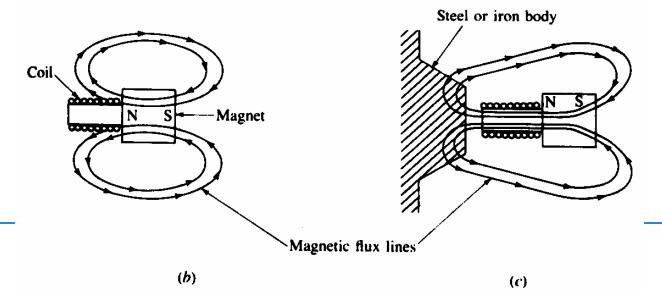
On /Off switches

Emitter / receiver pairs.

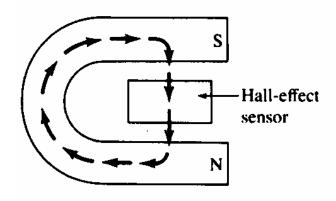
Thermal / pressure sensors

Proximity sensor: Inductive sensor

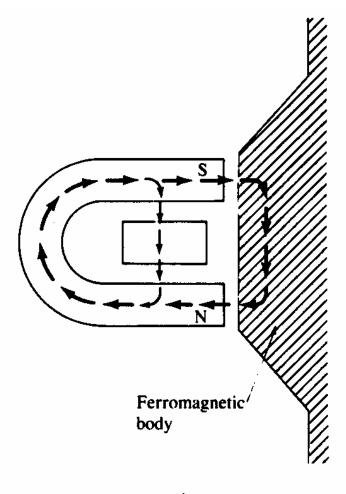




Proximity sensor: Hall effect sensor

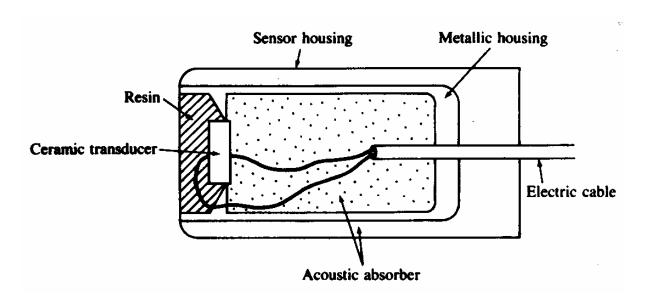


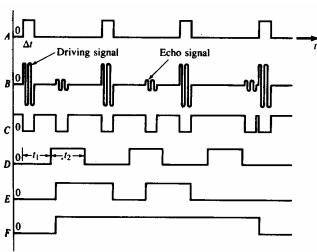
(a)



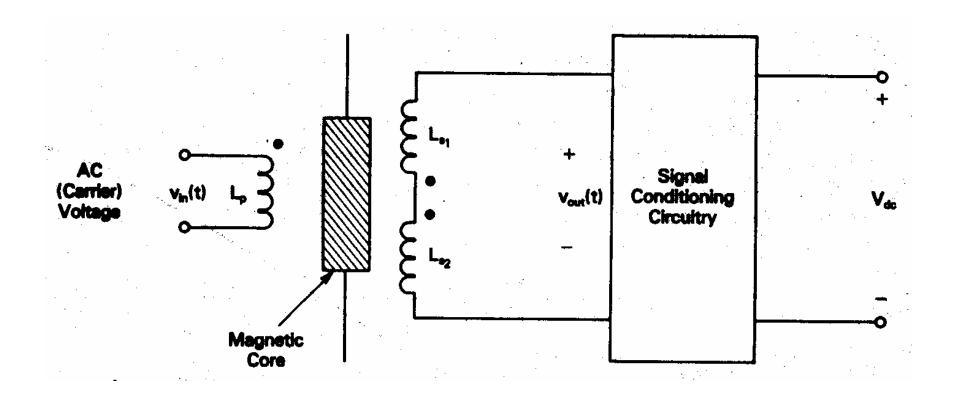
(b)

Range sensor: Ultrasonic sensor

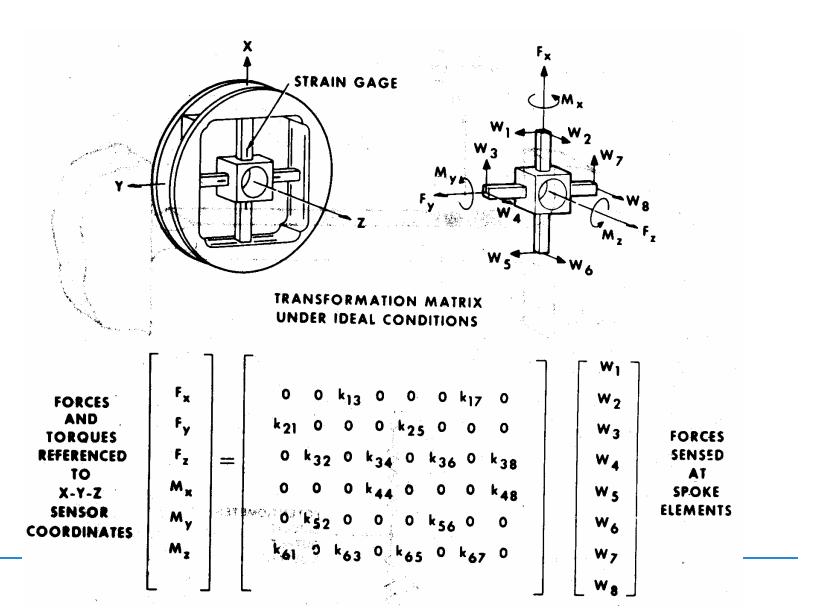




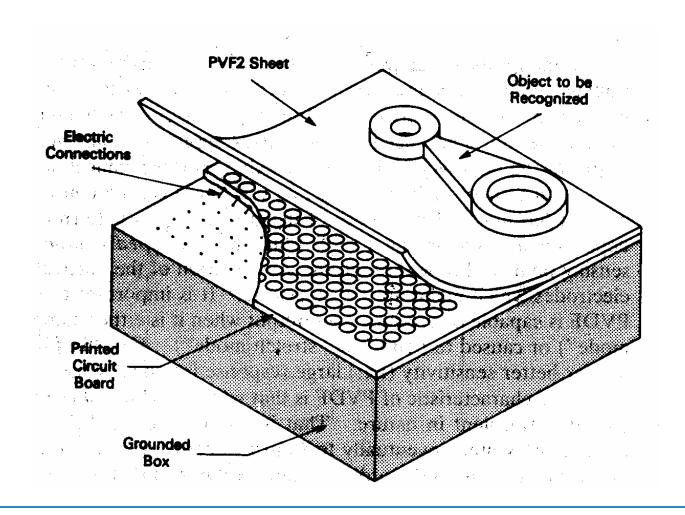
Position sensor: LVDT



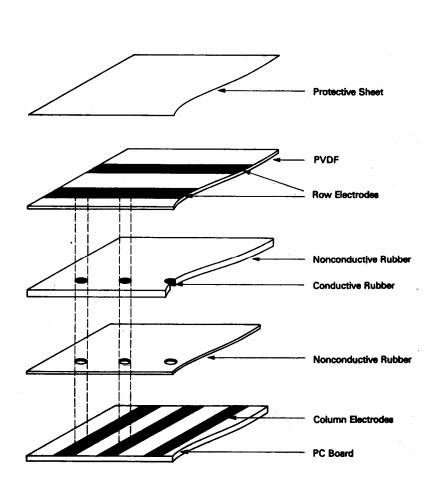
Robot wrist force sensor -3 axes

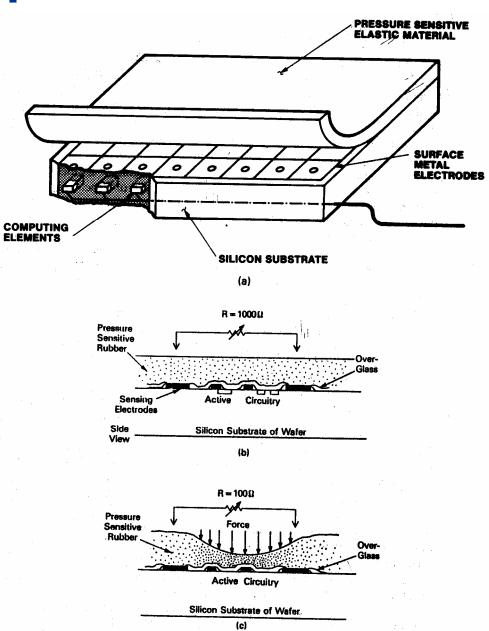


Touch sensor



Pressure sensor





Actuators

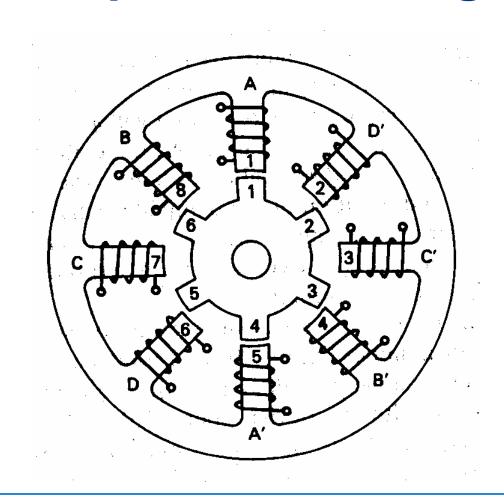
Electrical: stepper motors, DC servo motors

Pneumatic : air pressure

Hydraulic: fluid pressure (oil pressure).

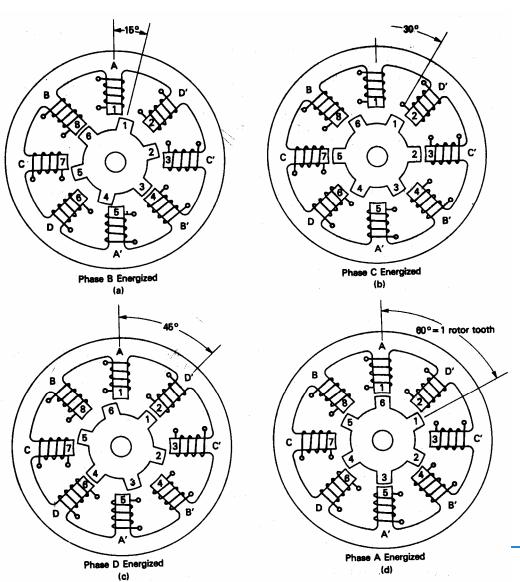
 Advanced actuators: ultrasonic motors, artificial muscles, molecular motors.

Stepper motors: Variable reluctance, permanent magnet

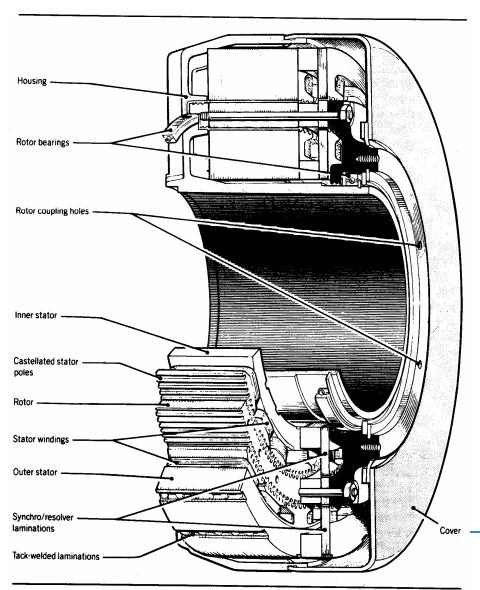


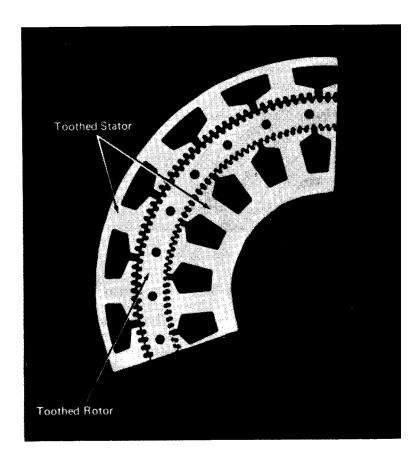
Working of a stepper motor

Sequence of rotation (CW): B - C - D - A'

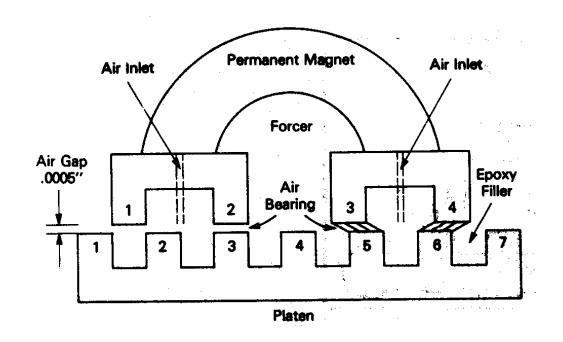


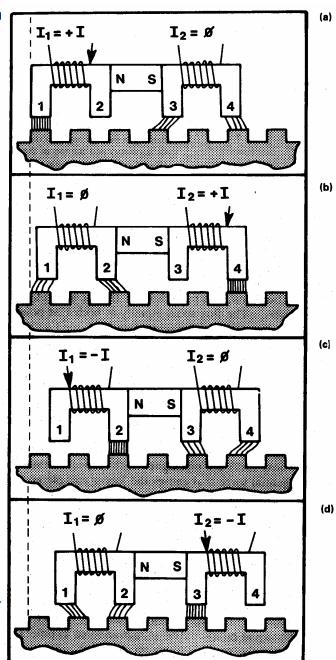
Mega-torque motors



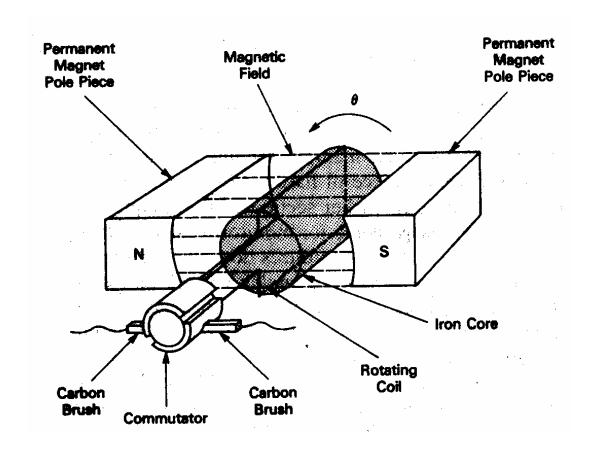


Linear stepper motor





DC Motors: basic working



Brushless DC motors

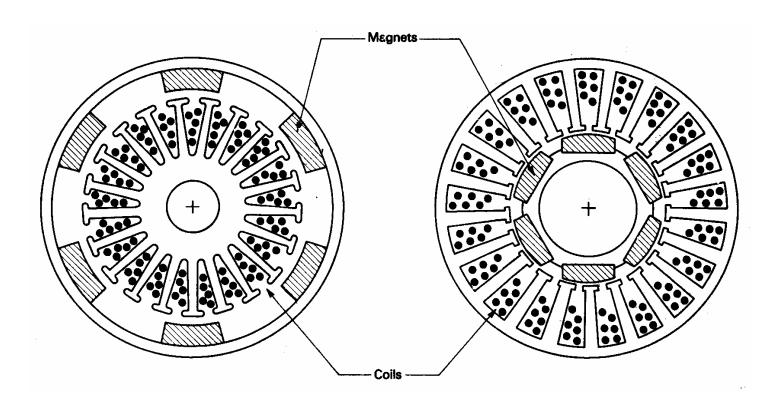


Fig. Brush type DC motor

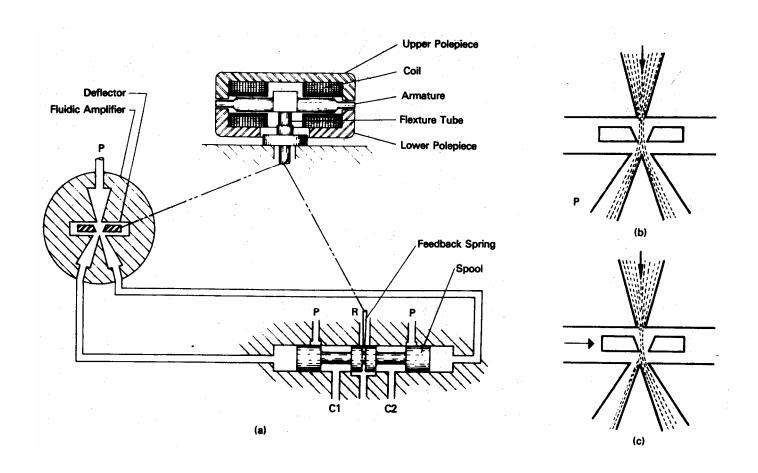
Fig. Brushless DC motor

DC servo motors

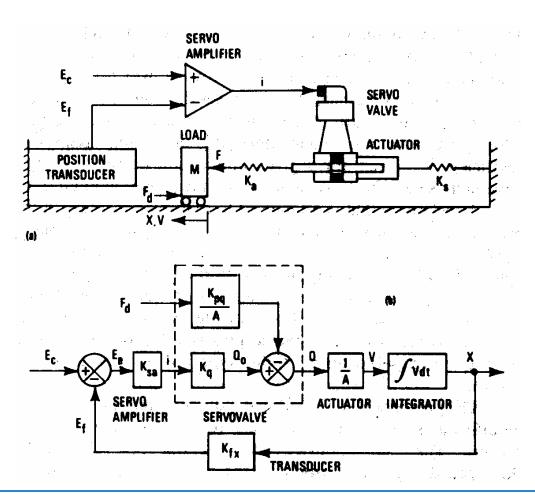
 DC motors working in closed loop position control.

Closed loop figure

Pneumatic actuators



Hydraulic actuators: piston cylinder mechanism



Advanced actuators: small, low power consumption, micro motion

Ultrasonic motors : micro robots, cameras, micro motion devices ...

Artificial muscles : prosthetic, bio applications..

Molecular motors : bio applications

Ultrasonic motors

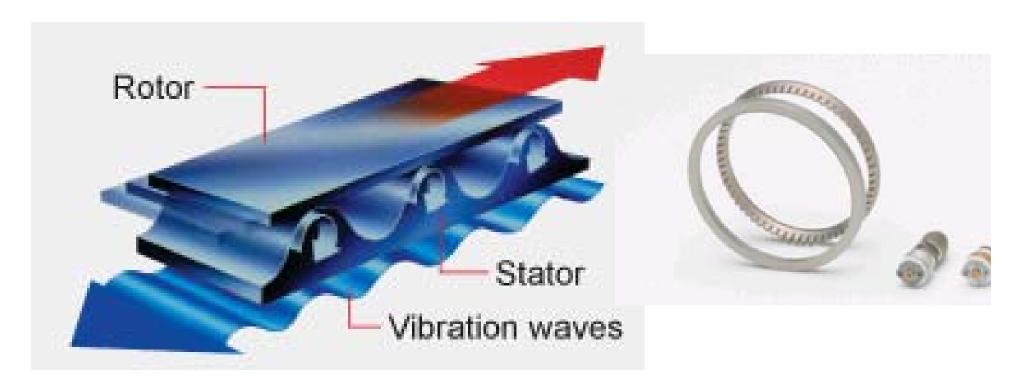
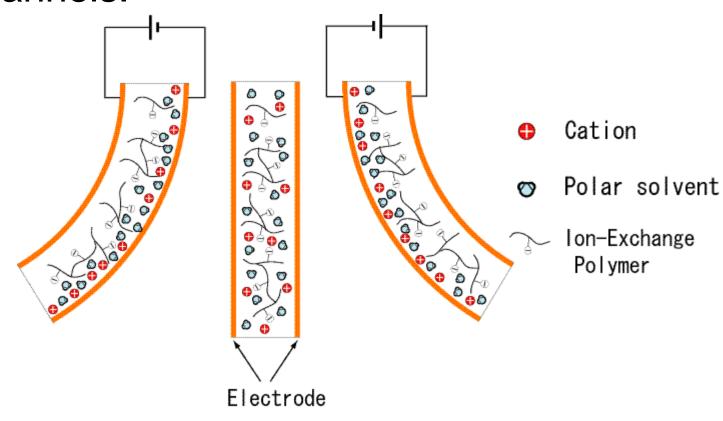


Fig. Motion due to dry friction and vibration.

Fig. Ring motors used in cameras.

Electro active Polymers

Movement of ions and creations of micro channels.



Artificial muscles



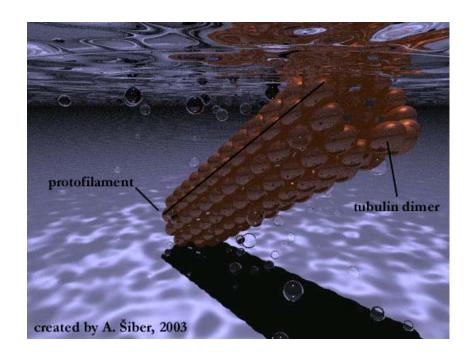
Fig. Hand.

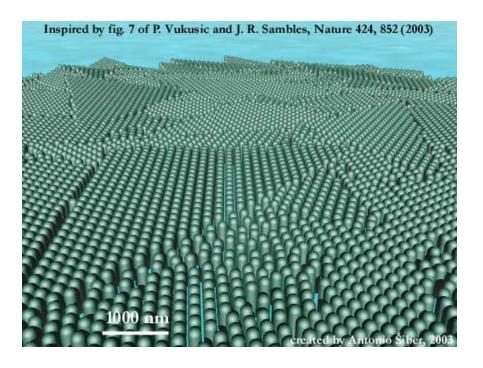


Fig. Flying robot.

Molecular motors

Protein-based molecular motors harness the chemical free energy released by the hydrolysis of ATP in order to perform mechanical work.





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