



# Zürich Autonomous Race Car

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# Presentation Overview

- Project Background
- Mechanical Design
- System Components
  - Odroid, Arduino, sensors
- System Architecture
- Vehicle Dynamics
  - System Identification
- Future Work
- Demonstration



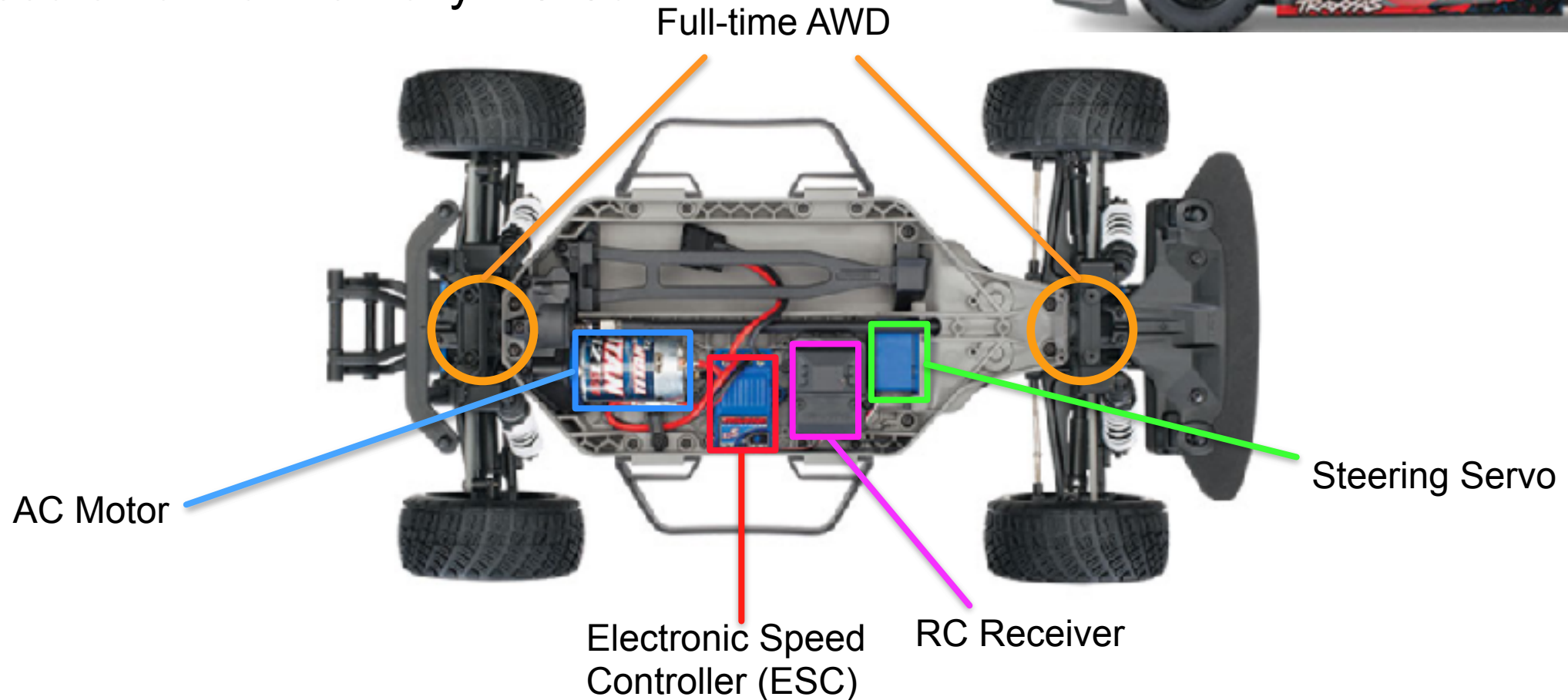
# Project Background

- Based on BARC (UC Berkeley).
- Allows for the development of a variety of autonomous driving features on a compact, easy to use platform.
- Quick implementation of concepts.
- Low cost.
- Use of familiar tools - Ubuntu OS with Robot Operating System (ROS).



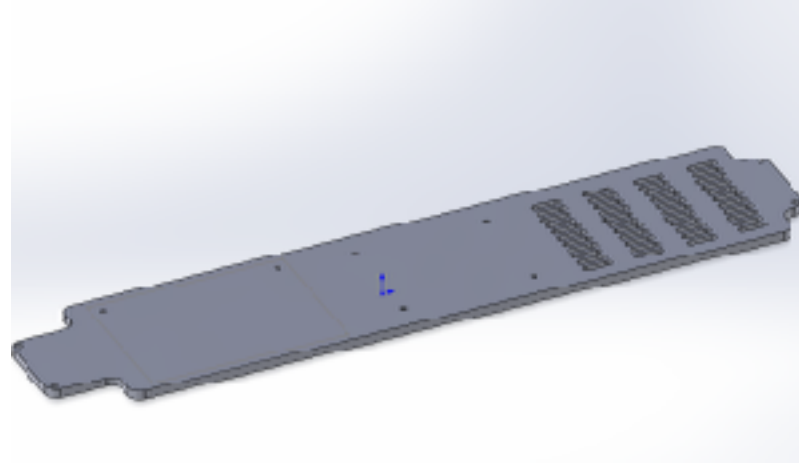
# Mechanical Design

- Based on a Traxxas Rally RC Car



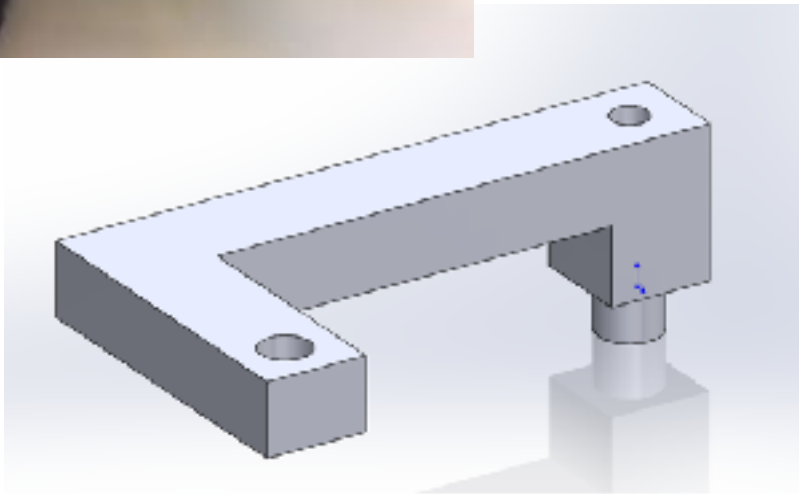


# Mechanical Design



## Top Platform

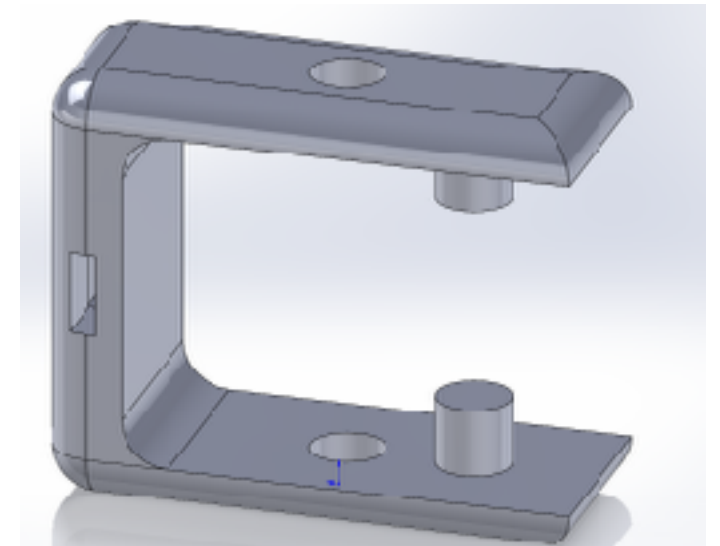
- Fixture for Odroid, Arduino, myAHRS+ and USB extension hub.



Rear

## Hall Effect Sensor Mounts

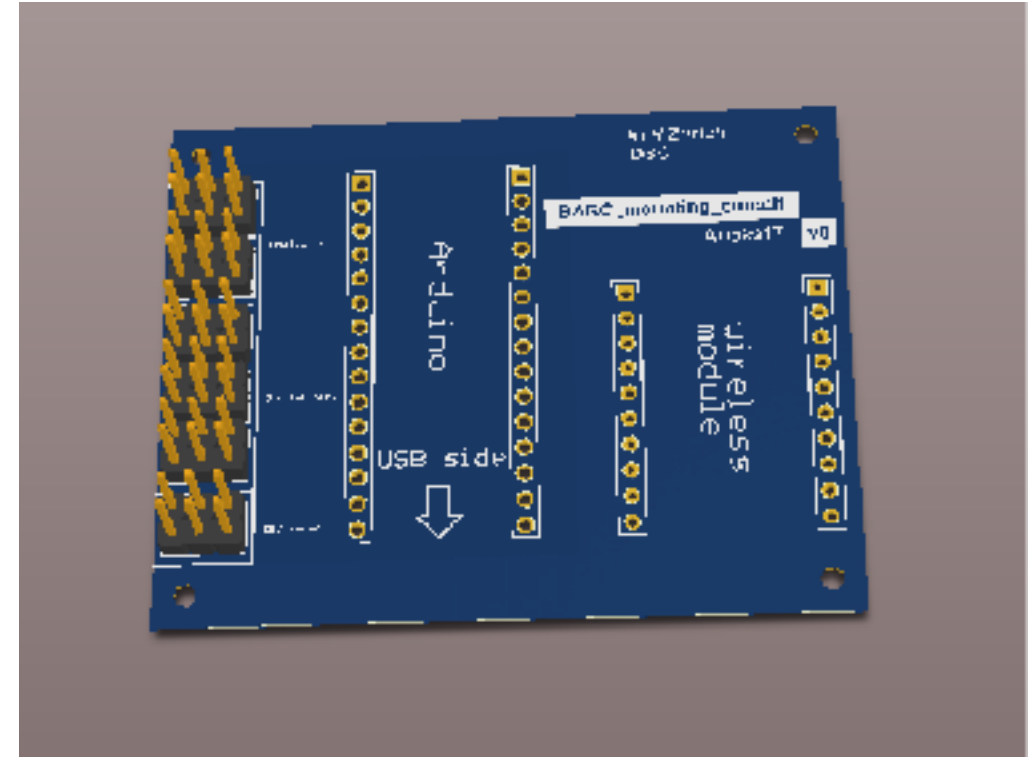
- Mounted on each wheel hub.
- Paired with four magnets per wheel.



Front

# Mechanical Design

- Mounting circuit for the Arduino and IMU
- Easy pin-out locations
- Allows for clean assembly of incoming sensor and actuator cables



# System Components

- Odroid XU4
  - Running Ubuntu 16.04.
  - 2 GB RAM.
  - 16 GB eMMC storage.
  - 8 core ARM processor.
  - High level computing done here.



- Arduino Nano
  - Hardware interface between Odroid and sensors.
  - Communication with sensors/actuators: steering servo, ESC, encoders.
  - Sends analog and digital sensor readings to the Odroid via USB.



# System Components

- myAHRs+ Inertial Measurement Unit (IMU)
  - Includes a magnetometer, accelerometer and gyroscope.
  - Interfaces with Odroid via USB.

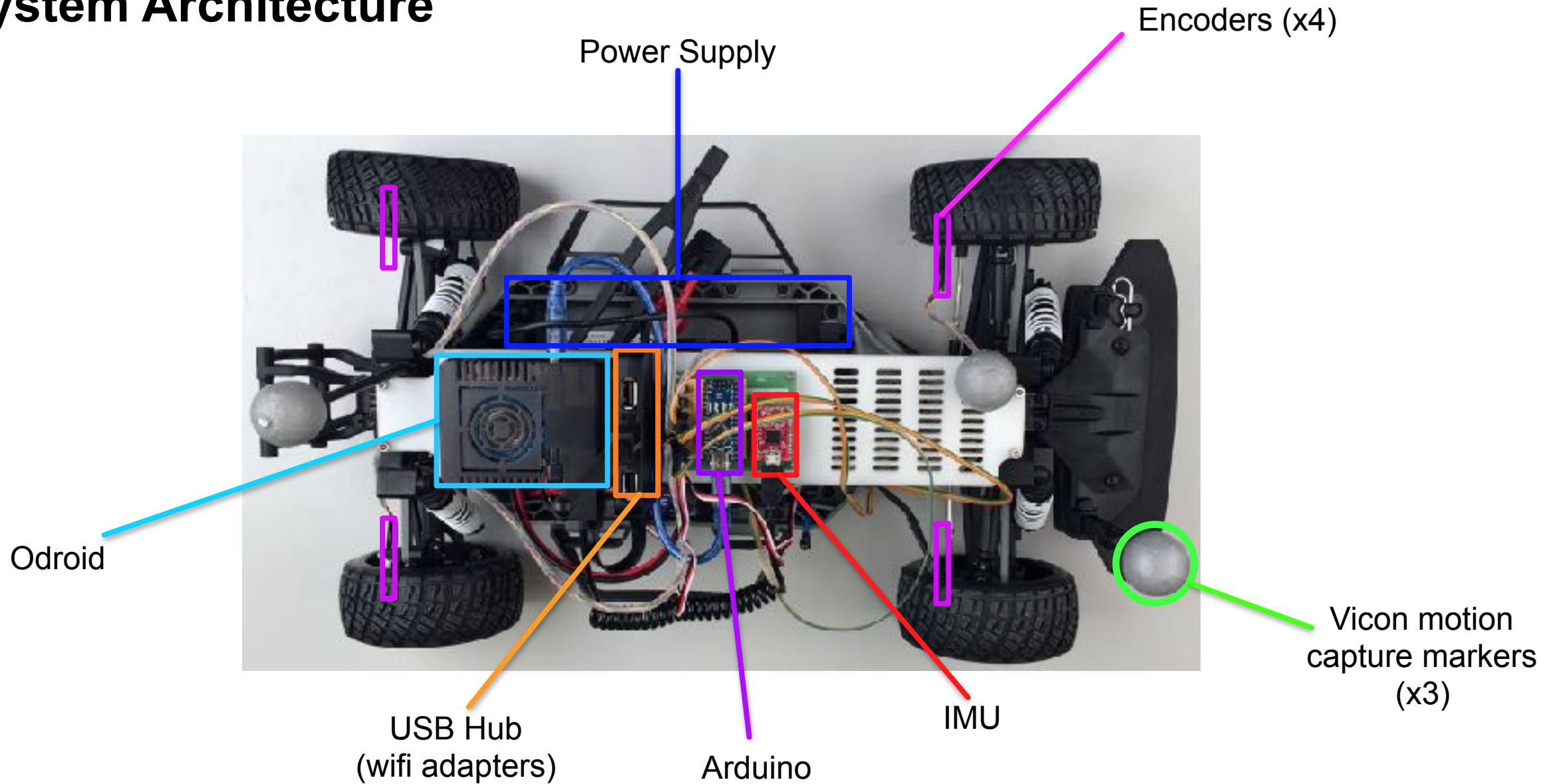


- Encoders
  - Composed of hall effect sensor and magnets fixed on the inside of each wheel.
  - Four counts per wheel rotation.
  - Interface with arduino via digital pins.

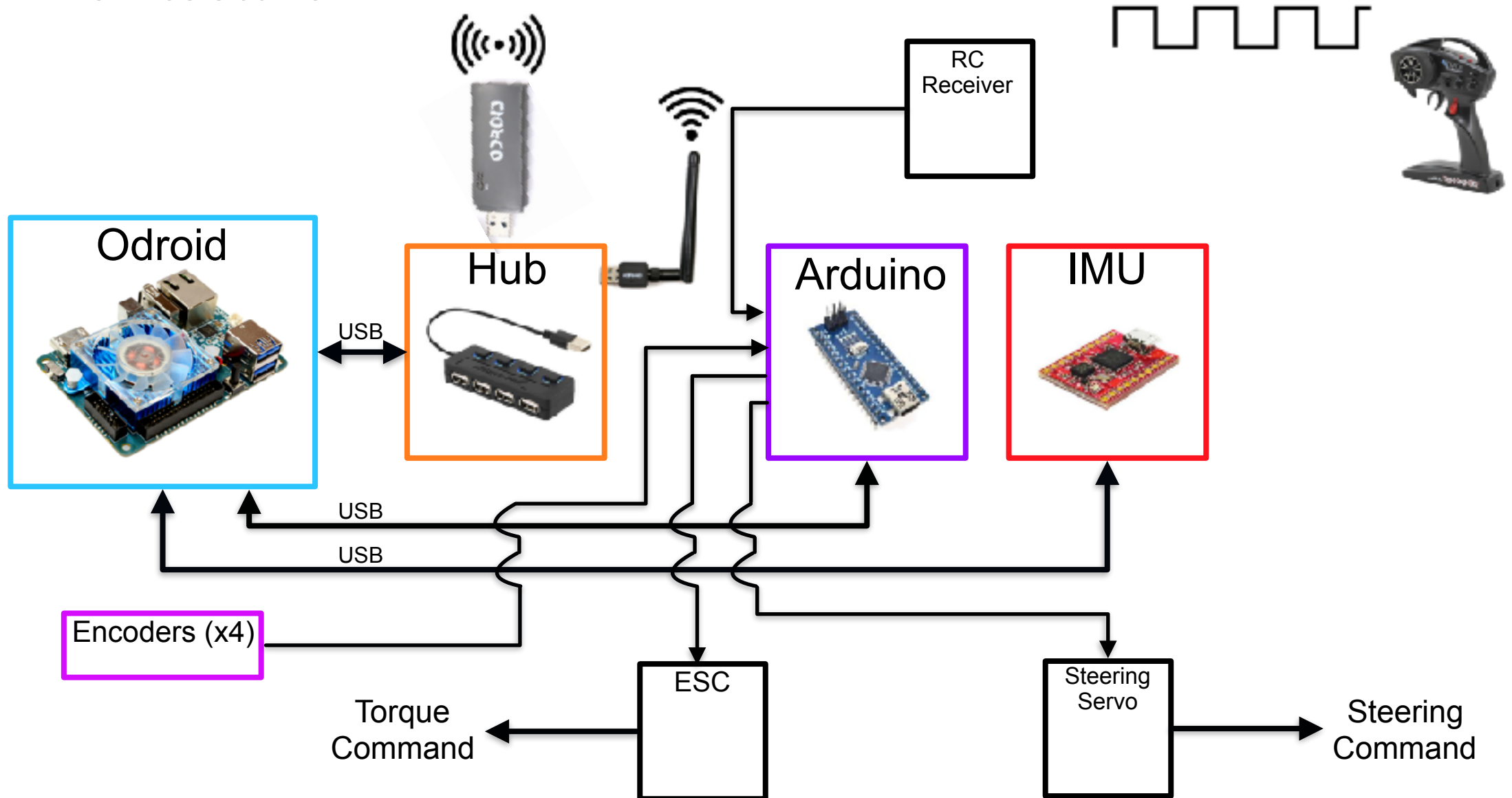




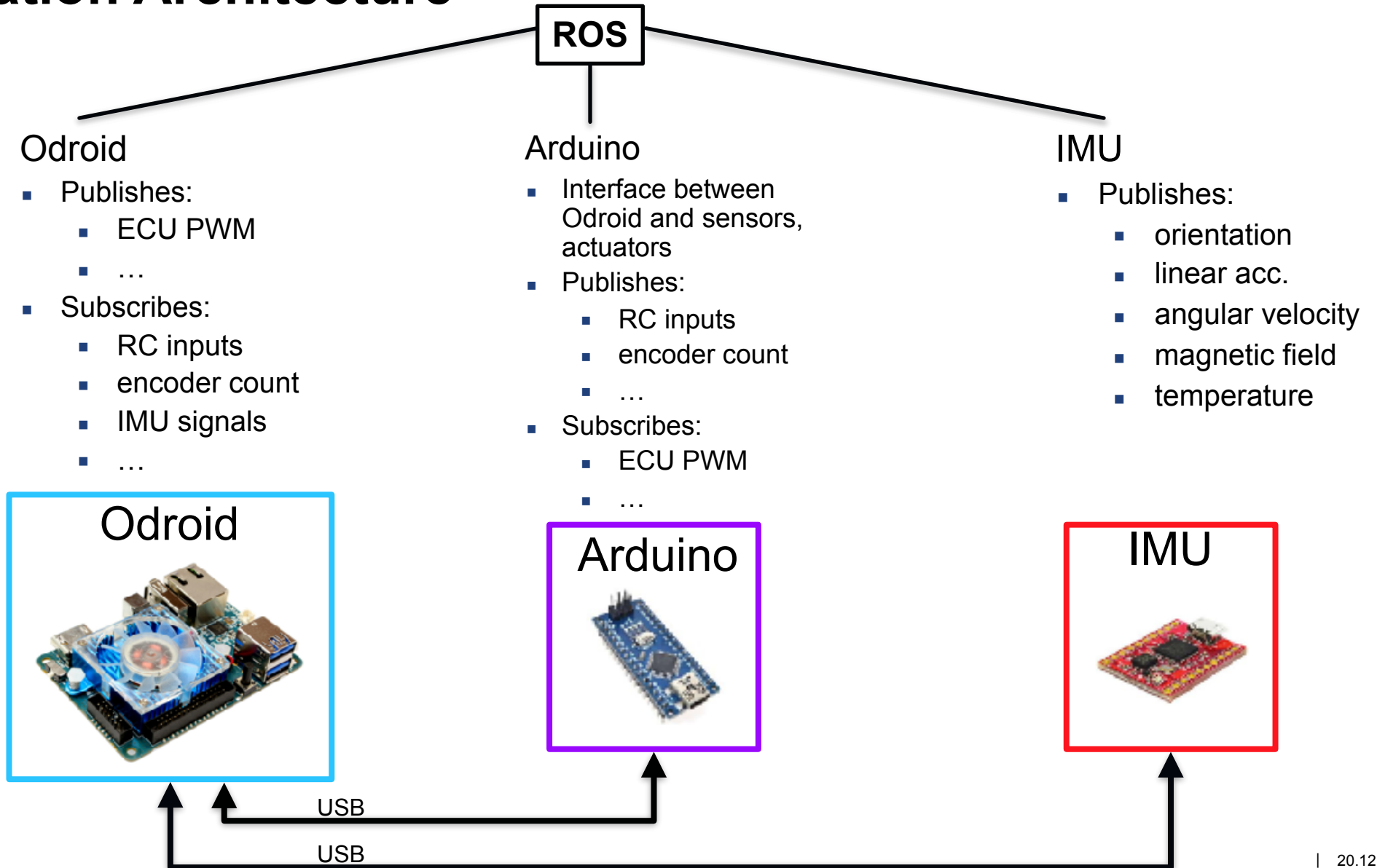
# System Architecture



# System Architecture

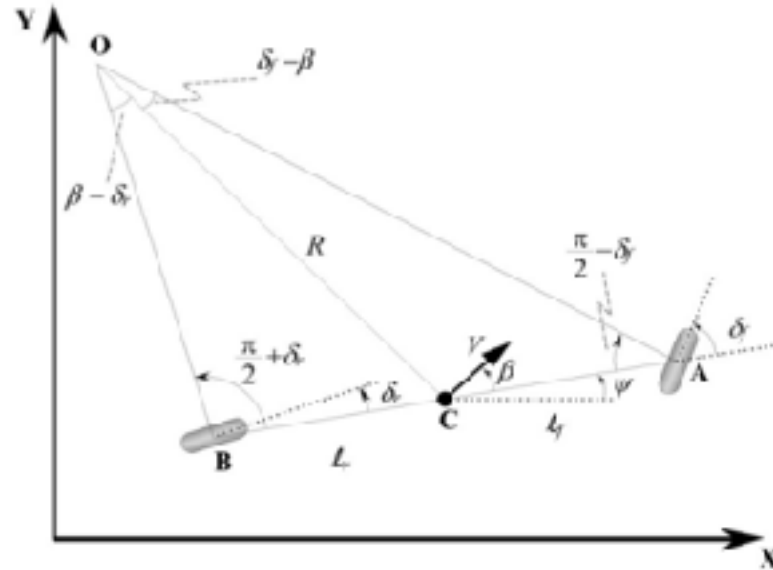


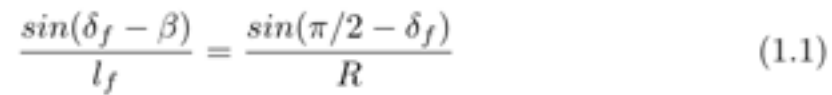
# Communication Architecture



# Steering Mapping

- In order to reliably control the vehicle, the conversion from a pulse width modulated (PWM) servo input to a steering angle must be understood
- Use of the kinematic bicycle model - assuming low, uniform vehicle speed





$$\frac{\sin(\delta_f)\cos(\beta) - \sin(\beta)\cos(\delta_f)}{l_f} = \frac{\cos(\delta_f)}{R} \quad (1.3)$$

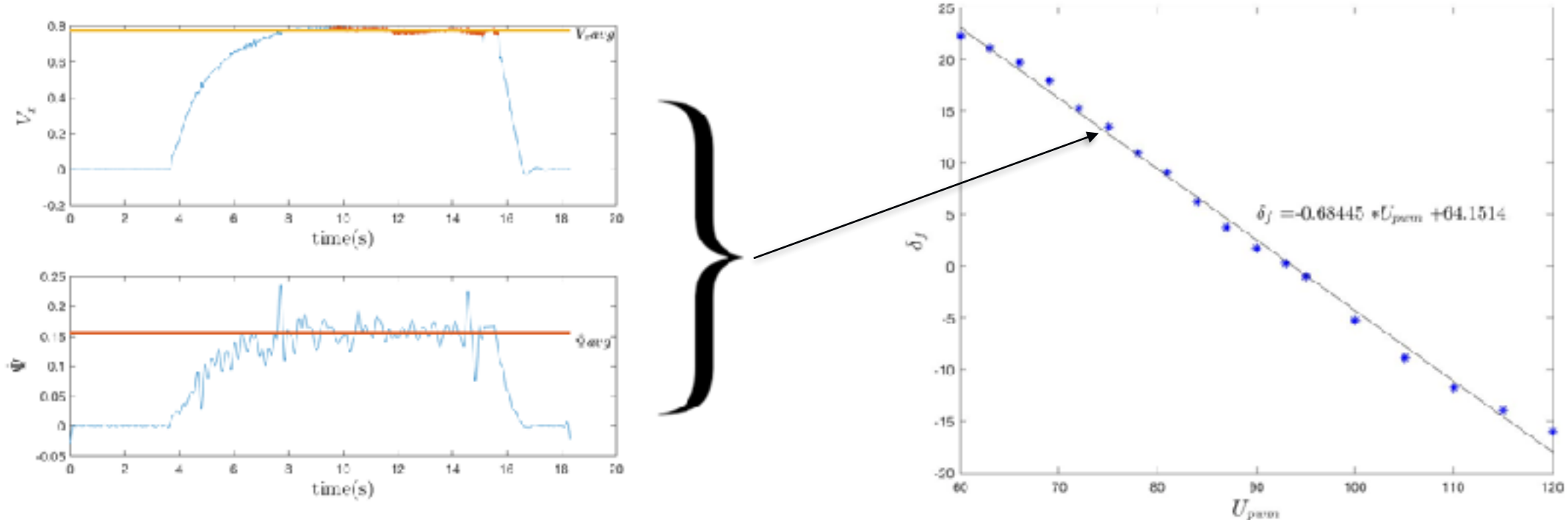
$$\dot{\Psi} = \omega = \frac{V}{R} \quad (1.6)$$

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# Steering Mapping

- Keeping a low constant velocity, the parameters of (1.7) were measured with the Vicon motion capture system for a variety of constant steering angles  $\delta_f$
- For each  $\delta_f$ , the gathered parameter data was averaged

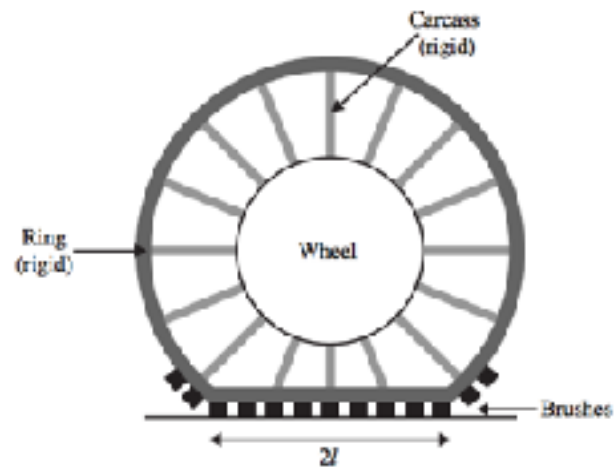


# Tire Parameters

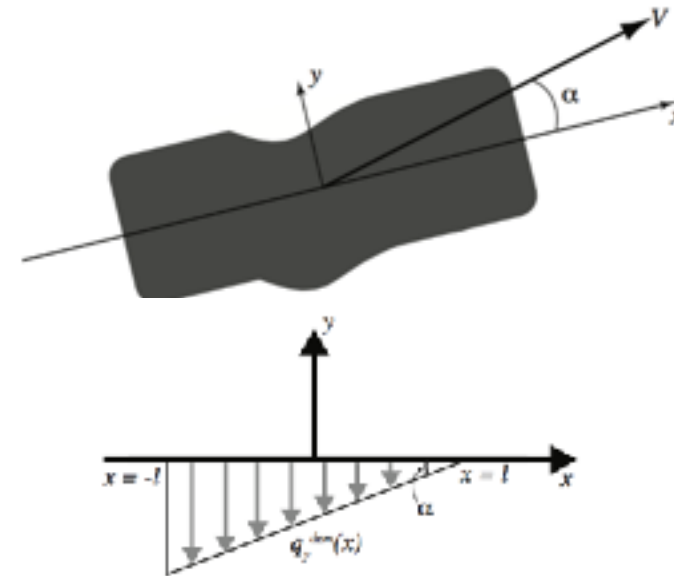
- Two approaches
  - Analytical tire model (Brush tire model).
  - Empirical tire model (Pacejka “magic formula” tire model).
- Both require data to fit model to: “ramp steer” test
  - Vehicle velocity is maintained at a constant rate while steering angle is linearly (and slowly) increased.
  - Use model of choice to fit the data. Model is characterized by tire parameters

# Tire Parameters

Brush tire model:



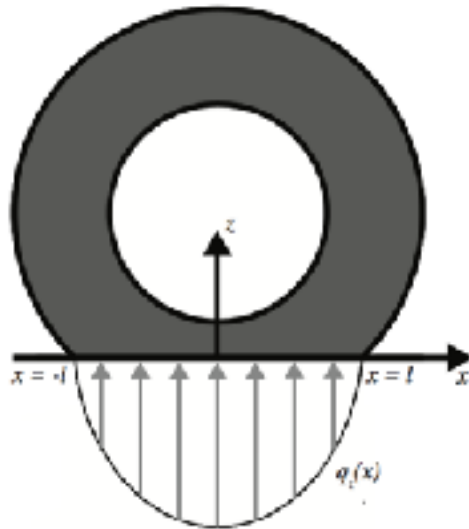
Tire slip angle:



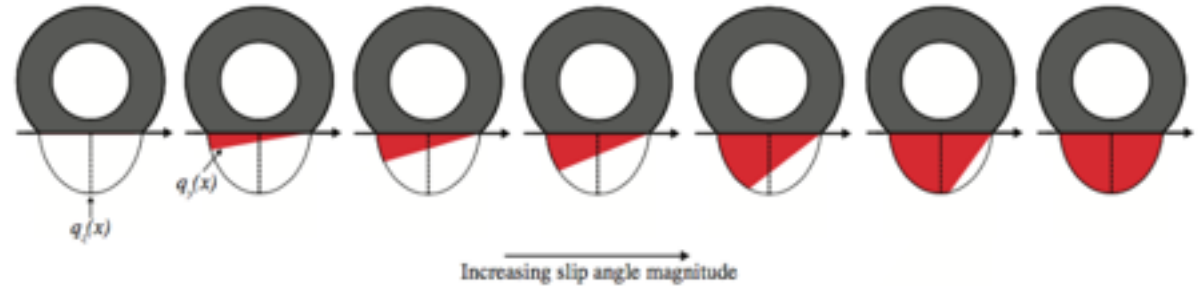
$$q_y^{dem}(x) = -c_{py}(a - x) \tanh \alpha \quad (2.11)$$

# Tire Parameters

Force available within contact patch area?



$$q_z(x) = \frac{3F_z}{4l} \left( \frac{l^2 - x^2}{l^2} \right), \quad (2.12)$$



$$|q_y(x)| \leq \mu q_z(x) \quad (2.13)$$

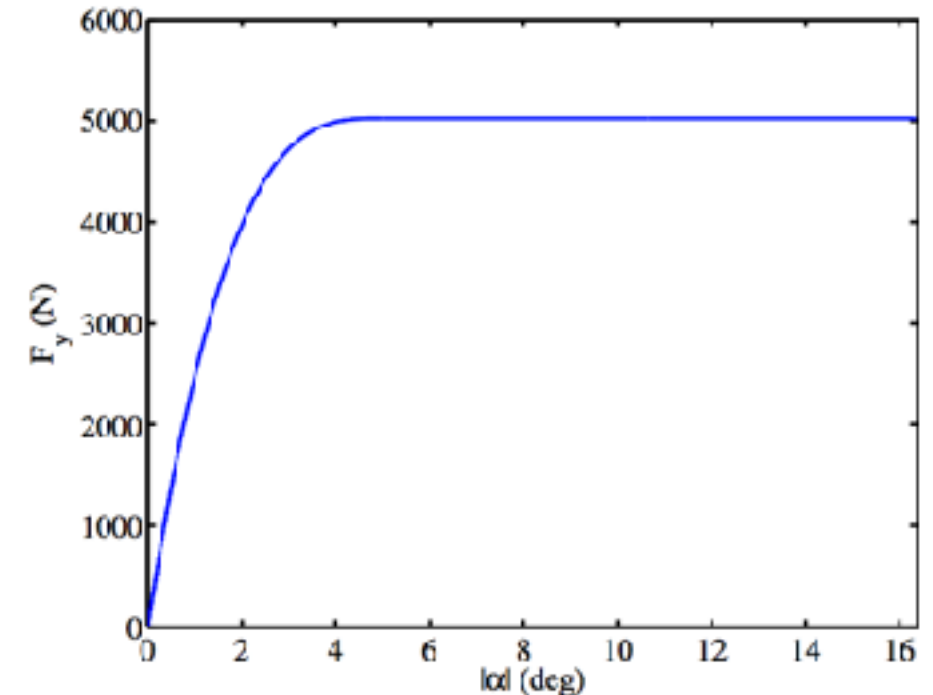
Behind the intersection of  $q_z$  and  $q_y$ , the contact patch is friction limited in that  $q_y = \mu q_z$ . This portion of the contact patch is now saturated.

# Tire Parameters

- To arrive at an analytical model describing the lateral tire force as a function of slip angle,  $q_y(x)$  can be integrated across the contact patch (characterized by  $\alpha_{sl}$  and the “cornering stiffness”  $C_\alpha$ ).

$$F_y = \begin{cases} -C_\alpha \tan \alpha + \frac{C_\alpha^2}{3\mu F_z} |\tan \alpha| \tan \alpha - \frac{C_\alpha^3}{27\mu^2 F_z^2} \tan^3 \alpha, & \text{if } |\alpha| \leq \alpha_{sl}, \\ -\mu F_z \operatorname{sgn} \alpha, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (2.14)$$

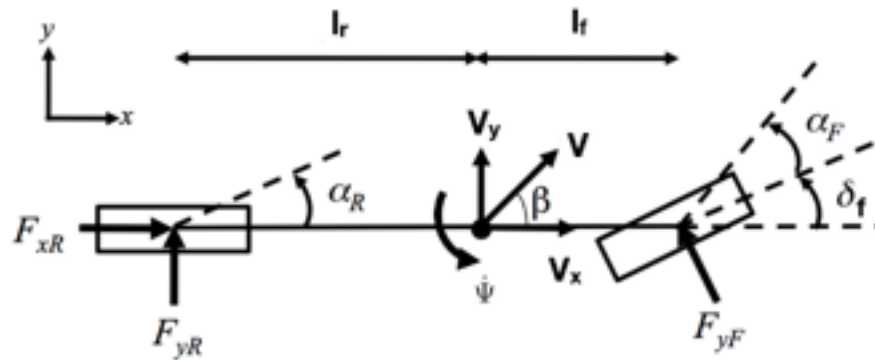
$$\alpha_{sl} = \arctan \frac{3\mu F_z}{C_\alpha} \quad (2.15)$$





# Tire Parameters

- To characterize the brush tire model, a dynamic bicycle model can be utilized to calculate the lateral force  $F_y$  and slip angle  $\alpha_{sl}$ .

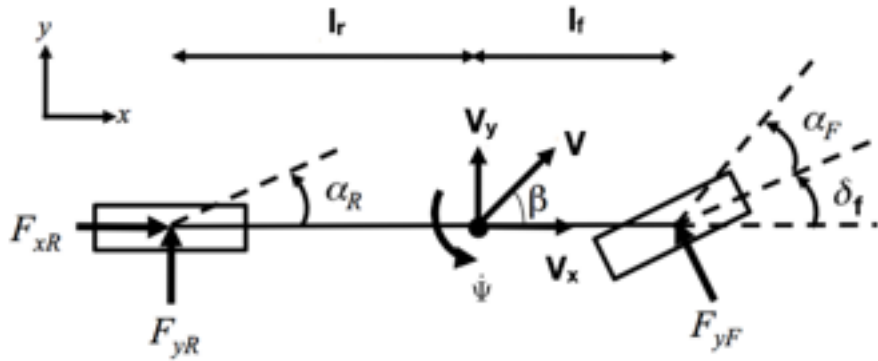


$$ma_y = F_{yF} \cos \delta_f + F_{yR} \quad (2.1)$$

$$I_z \ddot{\Psi} = l_f F_{yF} \cos \delta_f - l_r F_{yR} \quad (2.2)$$

$$a_y = \dot{V}_y + \dot{\Psi} V_x \quad (2.3)$$

# Tire Parameters



$$\dot{V}_y = \frac{F_{yF} + F_{yR}}{m} - \dot{\Psi} V_x \quad (2.4)$$

$$\ddot{\Psi} = \frac{l_f F_{yF} - l_r F_{yR}}{I_z} \quad (2.5)$$

Small angle approximation,  $\beta = \arctan \frac{V_y}{V_x} \approx \frac{V_y}{V_x}$   
and  $\dot{\beta} \approx \frac{\dot{V}_y}{V_x}$ . (2.4) updated to:

$$\dot{\beta} = \frac{F_{yF} + F_{yR}}{m U_x} - \dot{\Psi} \quad (2.6)$$

Steady state cornering:  $\dot{\beta} = \ddot{\Psi} = 0$ .

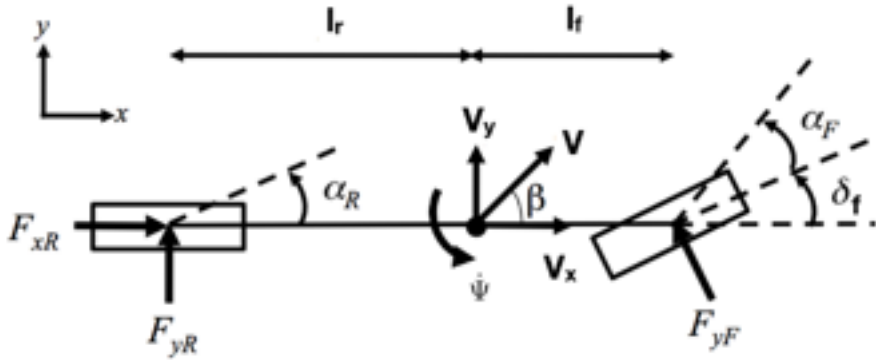
Combining (2.5) and (2.6) with  $a_y^{SS} = \dot{\Psi} V_x$ :

$$F_{yF} = \frac{l_r}{L} m a_y^{SS} \quad (2.7)$$

$$F_{yR} = \frac{l_f}{L} m a_y^{SS} \quad (2.8)$$

# Tire Parameters

- With (2.7-2.10), it is possible to plot a lateral force vs slip angle curve with the given vehicle parameters:



$$\alpha_F = \arctan \frac{V_y + l_f \dot{\psi}}{V_x} - \delta_f \approx \arctan \left( \beta + \frac{l_f}{V_x} \dot{\psi} \right) - \delta_f \quad (2.9)$$

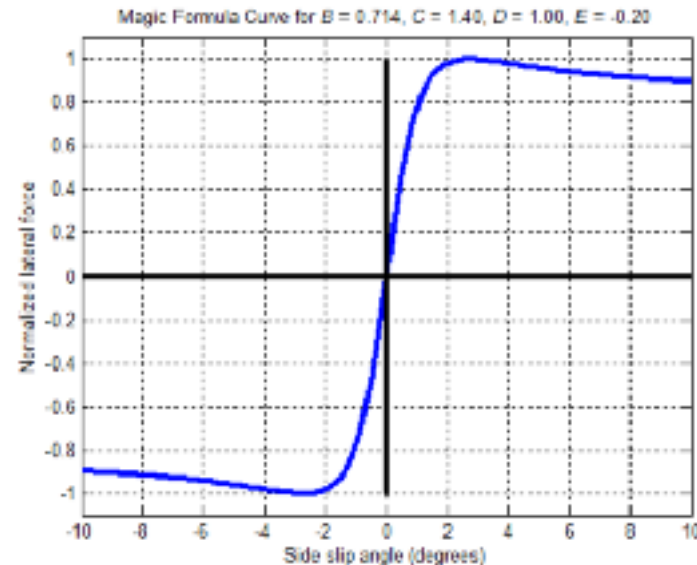
$$\alpha_R = \arctan \frac{V_y - l_r \dot{\psi}}{V_x} \approx \arctan \left( \beta - \frac{l_r}{V_x} \dot{\psi} \right) \quad (2.10)$$

Vehicle Parameters	
Parameter	Value
$F_{zF}$	12.6941 N
$F_{rF}$	14.7454 N
$l_f$	0.1741 m
$l_r$	0.1499 m
$m$	2.792 kg

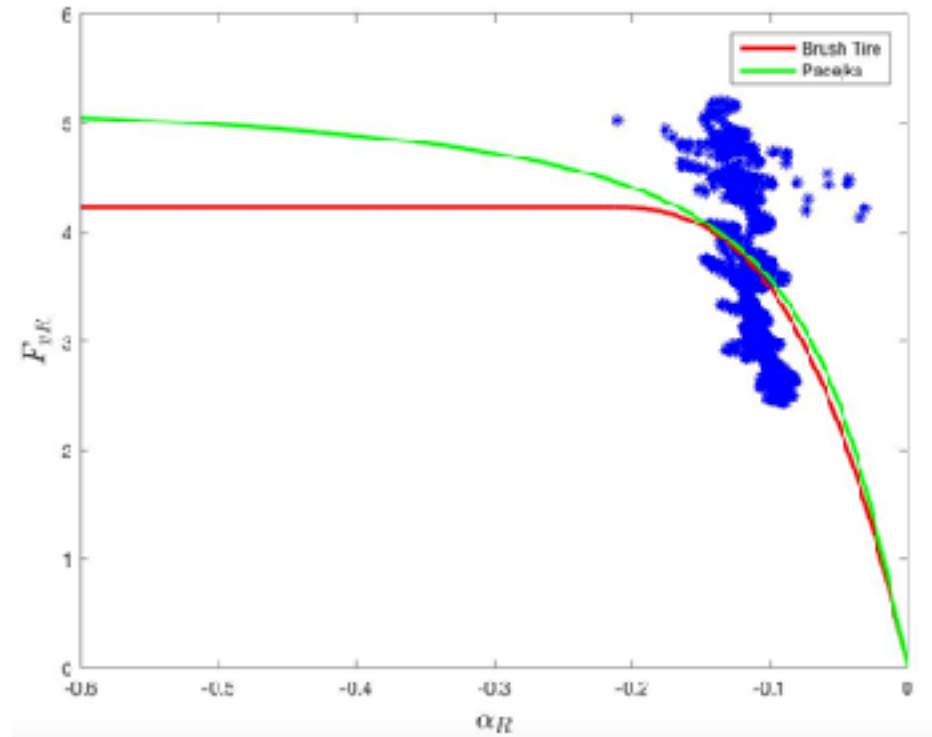
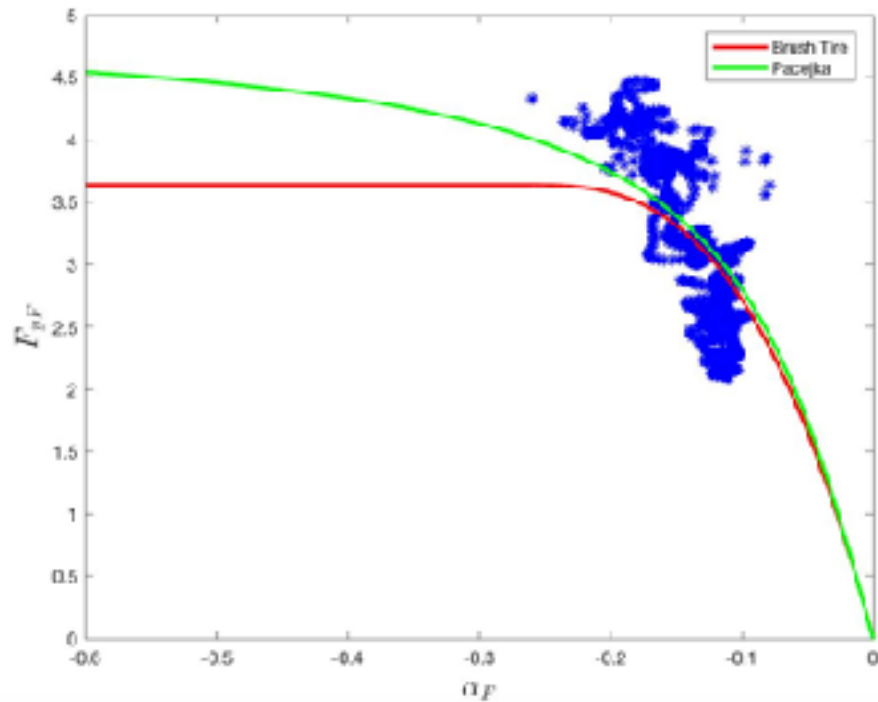
# Tire Parameters

- Pacejka “magic formula”
  - Empirically derived
  - Tire is characterized by coefficients for forces it can produce at the contact patch
  - Coefficients are determined via a best fit line between the empirical formula and gathered data

$$R(k) = d \cdot \sin\{c \cdot \arctan[b(1 - e)k + e \cdot \arctan(bk)]\}$$



# Tire Parameters



Tire Model	
States	$\beta, \dot{\Psi}$
Input	$\delta_f$

$$\dot{\beta} = \frac{F_{yF} + F_{yR}}{mU_x} - \dot{\Psi}$$

$$\ddot{\Psi} = \frac{l_f F_{yF} - l_r F_{yR}}{I_z}$$



# Future Work

- Networking
- Encoder miscount
  - hardware fix - redesign hall sensor mounts
  - software fix (timing issue?)
- Additional sensors

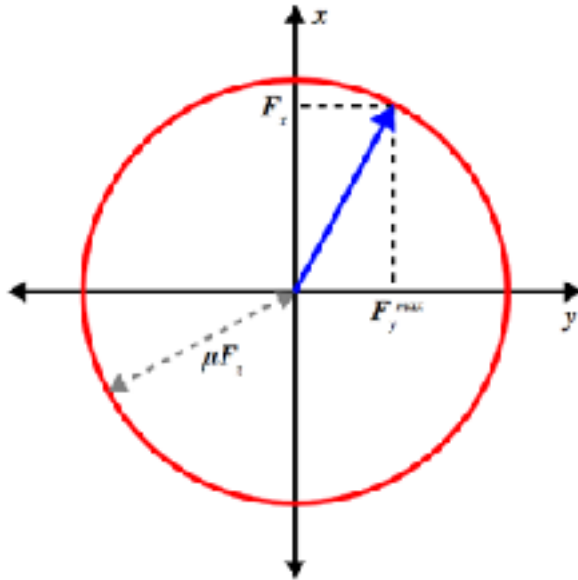


Thank you.  
Demo coming up!

# References

- [1] Hindiye, Rami Yusef. “Dynamics And Control Of Drifting In Automobiles”. PhD Dissertation, Stanford University, 2013.

# Appendix



$$\sqrt{F_x^2 + F_y^2} \leq \mu F_z.$$

$$F_y^{max} = \sqrt{(\mu F_z)^2 - F_x^2}.$$

$$F_y^{max} = \xi \mu F_z$$

$$\xi = \frac{\sqrt{(\mu F_z)^2 - F_x^2}}{\mu F_z}$$

$$F_y = \begin{cases} -C_\alpha \tan \alpha + \frac{C_\alpha^2}{3\xi\mu F_z} |\tan \alpha| \tan \alpha - \frac{C_\alpha^3}{27\xi^2\mu^2 F_z^2} \tan^3 \alpha & |\alpha| \leq \alpha_{sl} \\ -\xi\mu F_z \operatorname{sgn} \alpha & |\alpha| > \alpha_{sl} \end{cases}$$

$$\alpha_{sl} = \arctan \frac{3\xi\mu F_z}{C_\alpha}.$$

# Appendix

$$ma_x = \frac{F_{xR} - F_{yF} \sin \delta}{m},$$

$$a_x = \dot{U}_x - rU_y \approx \dot{U}_x - rU_x\beta.$$



$$\dot{\beta} = \frac{F_{yF} + F_{yR}}{mU_x} - r$$

$$\dot{r} = \frac{aF_{yF} - bF_{yR}}{I_z}$$

$$\dot{U}_x = \frac{F_{xR} - F_{yF} \sin \delta}{m} + rU_x\beta.$$