

Trilogy: The End Game

Team. 진국

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KAIST



Contents Title

01. Design Philosophy

02. System Design

03. Motor Control

04. Vision Processing

05. System Integration

06. Demo Video

01

Design Philosophy



Design Philosophy

- Goal: *Smart and compact*

Smart algorithm

Robust to any exceptional case

Smart sensor configuration

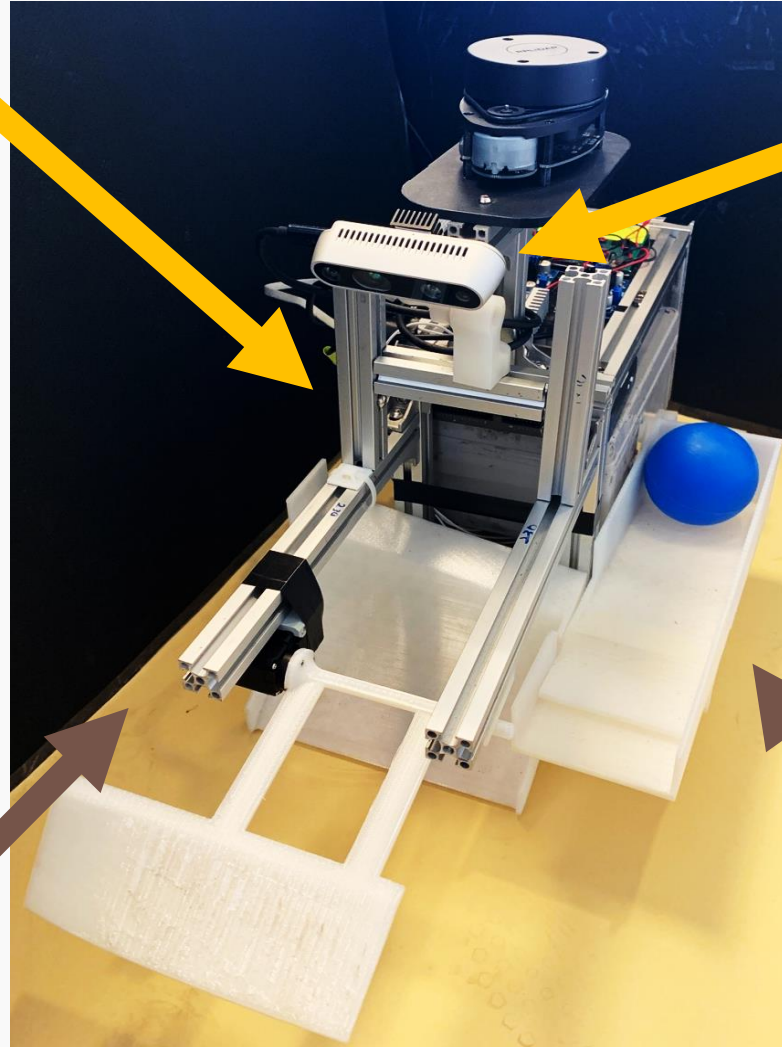
LiDAR + RGB-D Camera

Compact design

Ensures minimal movement

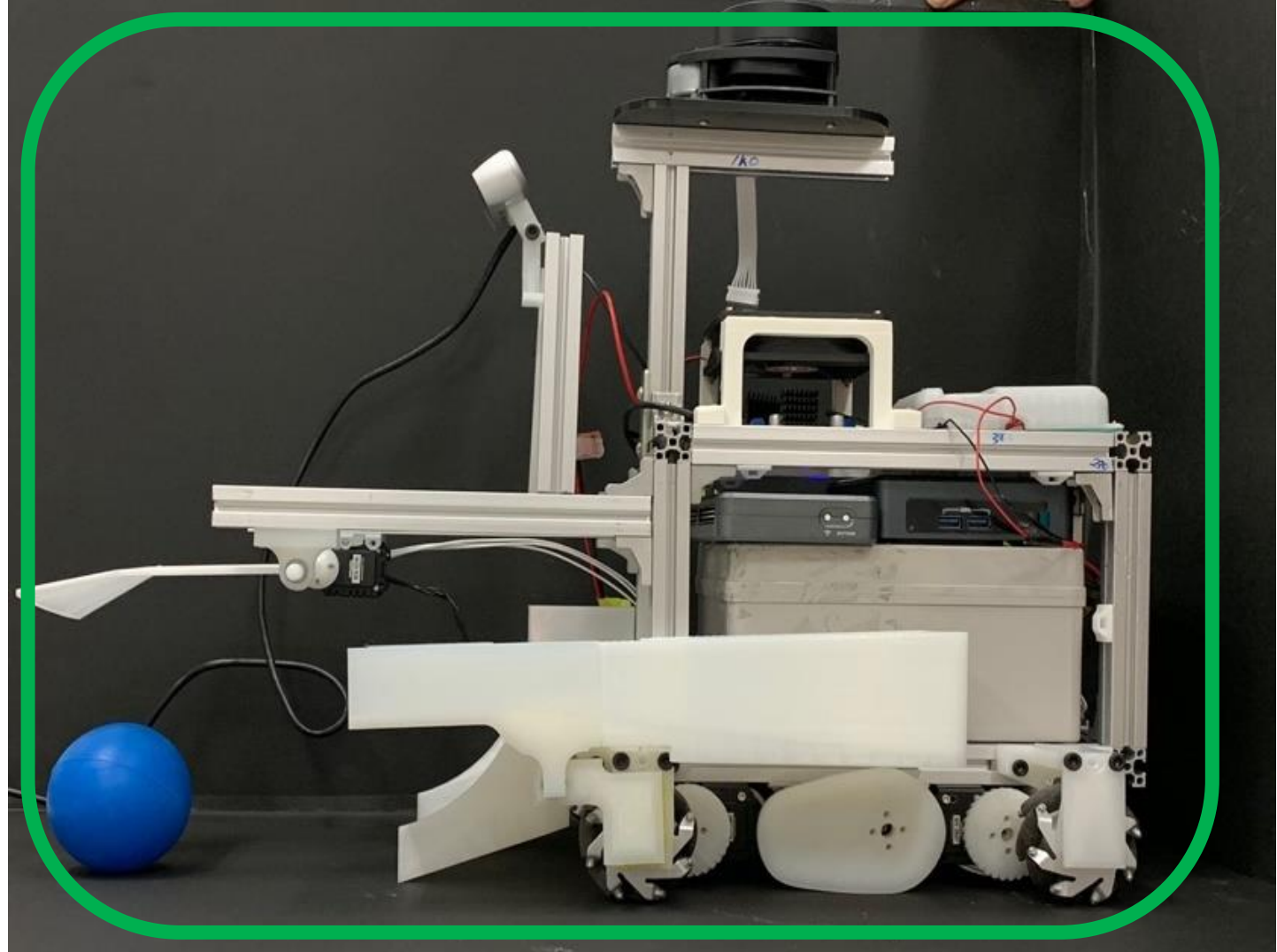
Compact pickup & drop module

Minimizes redundant space



02 - System Design

Solidworks

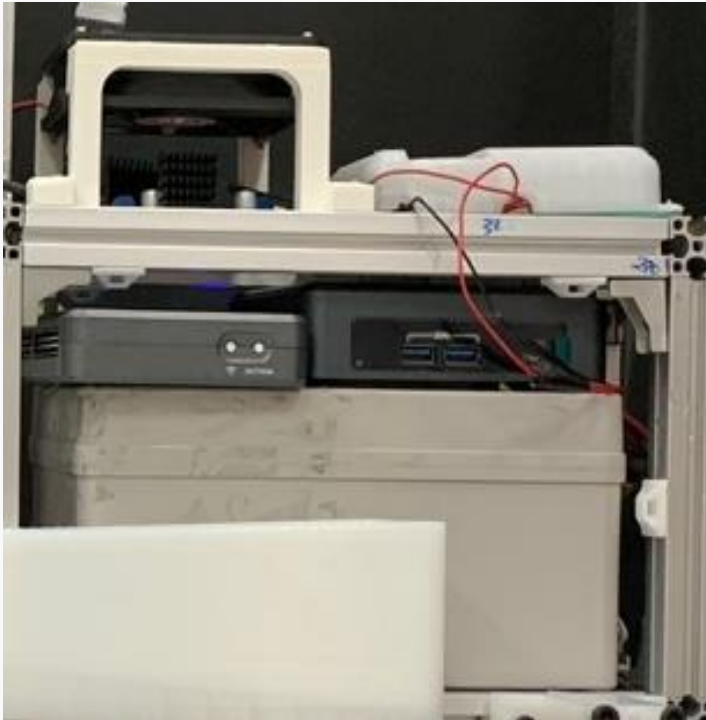


System Design

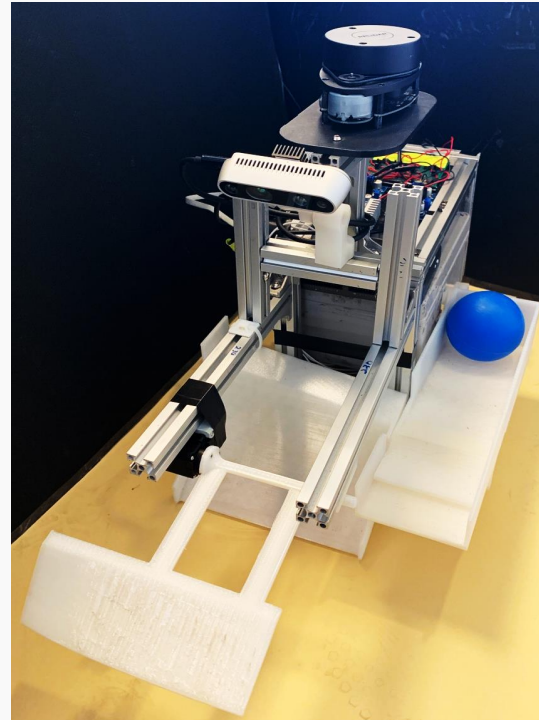
■ Whole Hardware

Goal: Hardware as compact and slim as possible

Compact

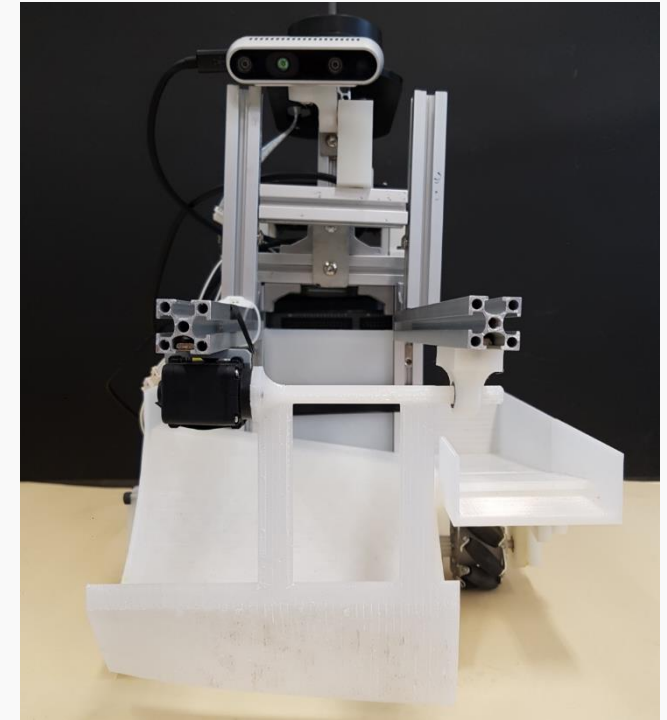


- Battery, NUC, myRIO are piled up
- The load is well-considered



- Size : **41×29×42 [cm]**
- Mass : **6.8kg**

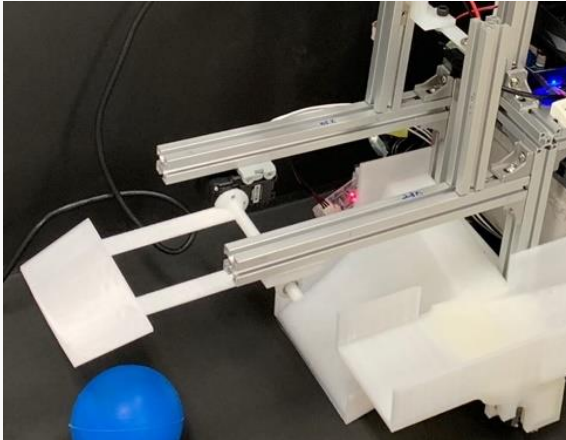
Slim



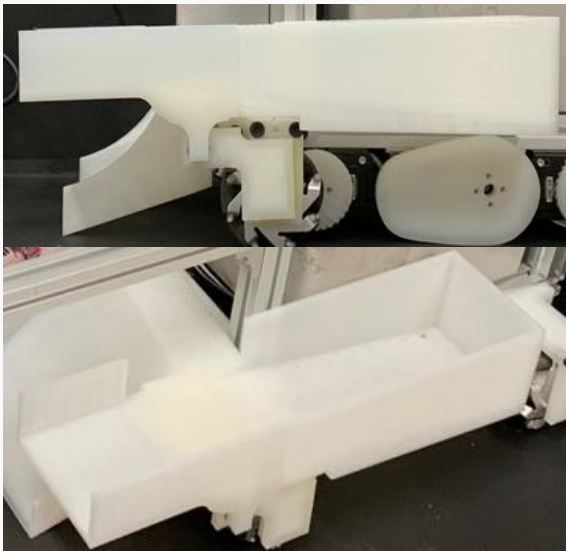
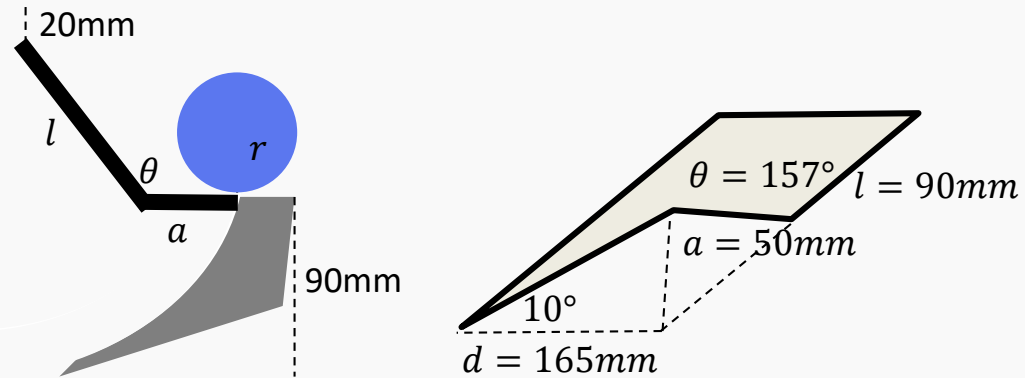
- Gear housing : 9cm
- Body width : 11cm

System Design

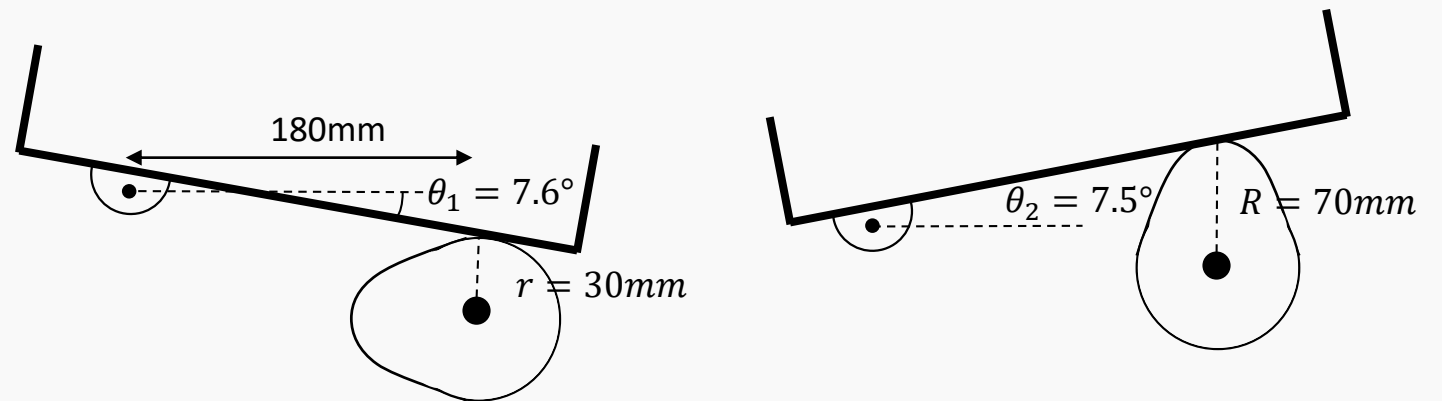
■ Pick up & Drop Part



1. Twisted wing*

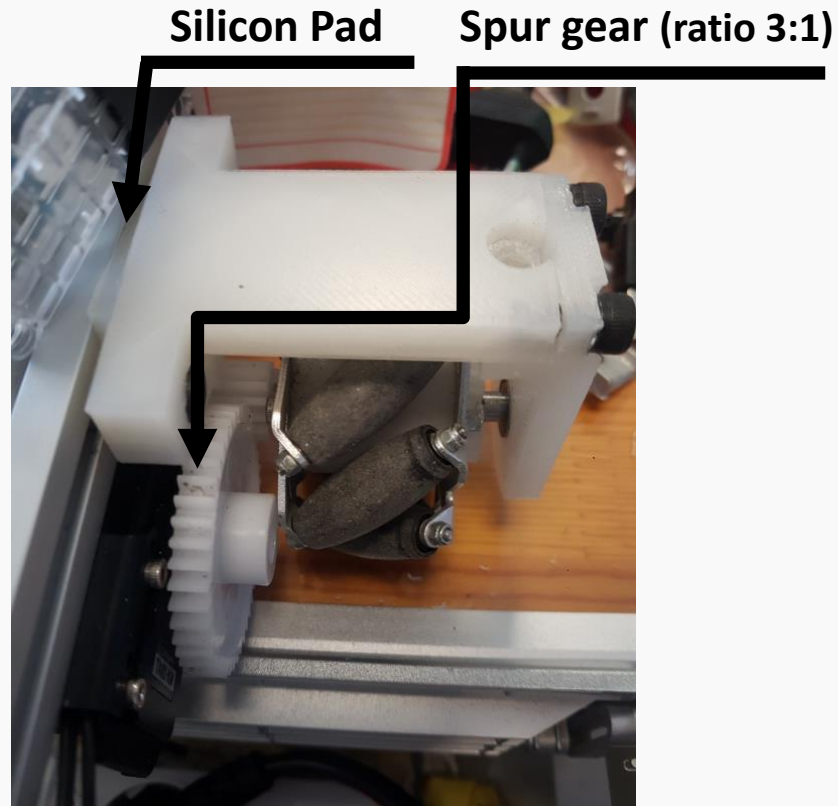


2. Cam & follower*



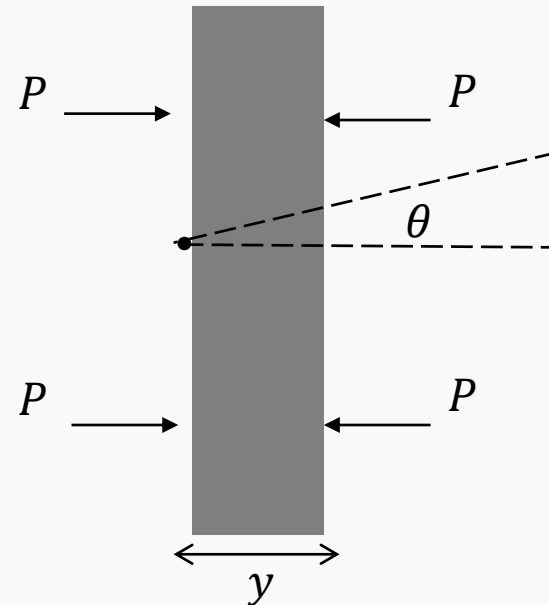
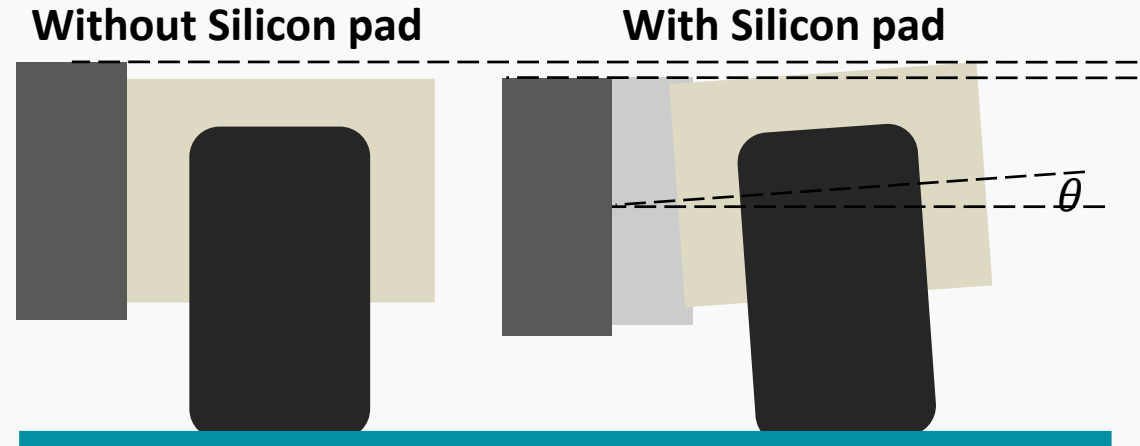
System Design

■ Gear Housing



Attaching viscoelastic material

- Wheels get sufficient DOF
- Make the system more compact



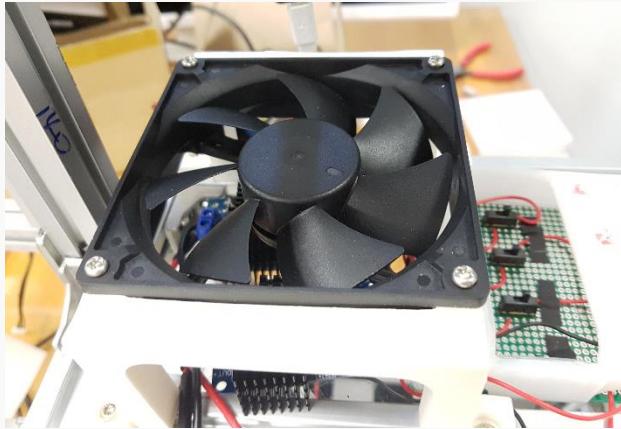
$$I\ddot{\theta} + c\dot{\theta} + k\theta = T$$

$$c = \mu y P$$

$$k = a_{\text{silicon}} \frac{A}{l}$$

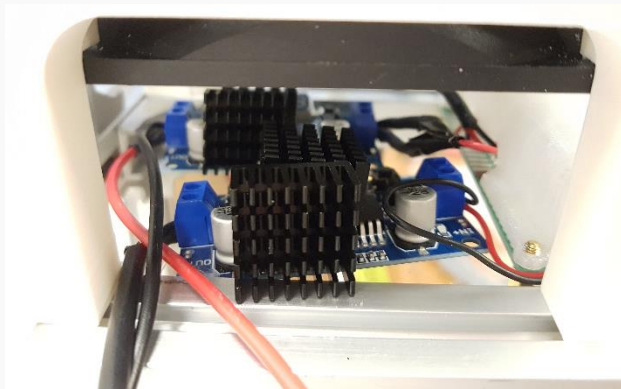
System Design

■ Heat Problem



Cooling Fan

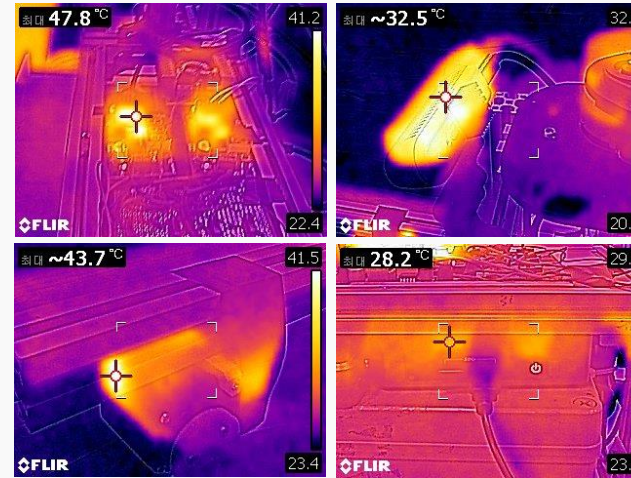
Size : 92×92×25
Input power : 2.16W
Speed : 3200rpm
Maximum air flow : 57.92CFM



DC converters with Heatsink

Size : 4-20×20×10

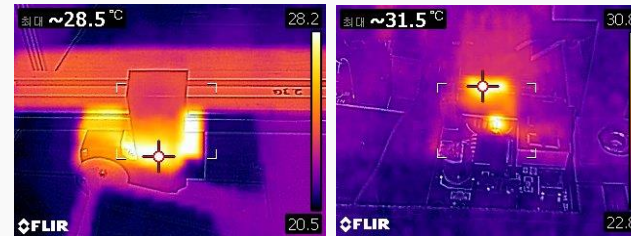
- Before attaching fan and heatsink (after running once)



Room Temperature = 25 °C

- Converter : **47.8°C**
- Servo motor : **43.7°C**
- RGB-D camera: 32.5 °C
- NUC : 28.2 °C

- After attaching fan and heatsink* (after running once)

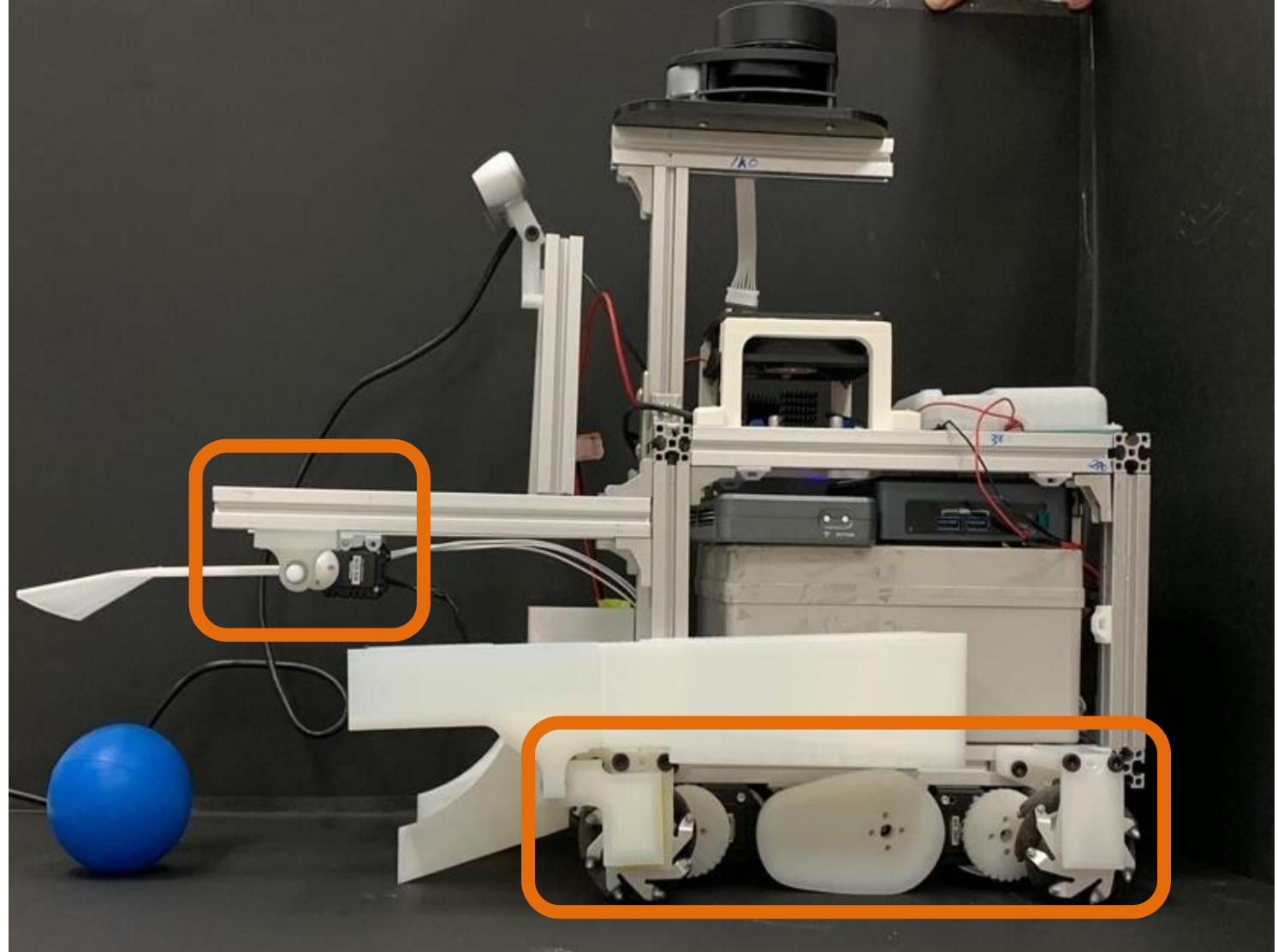


Room Temperature = 25 °C

- Converter : **31.5 °C**
- Servo motor : **28.5 °C**

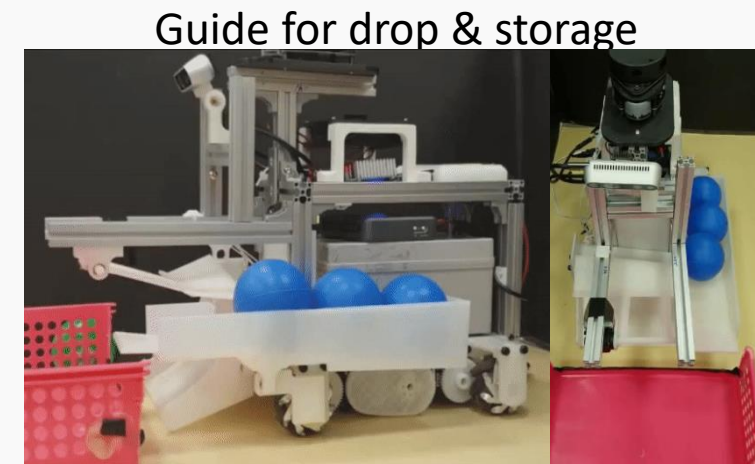
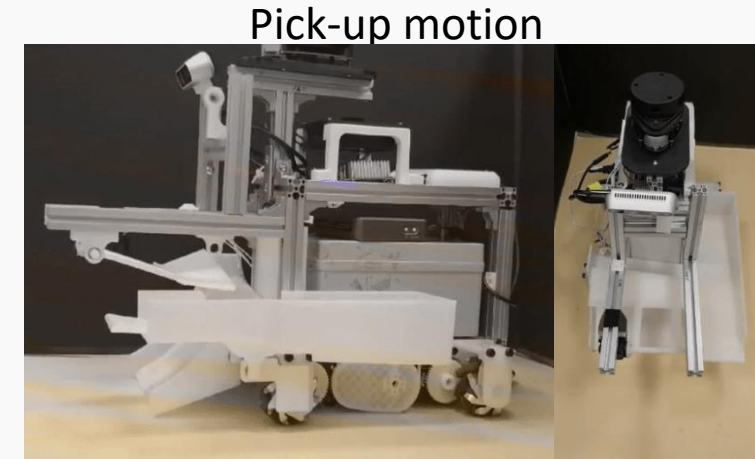
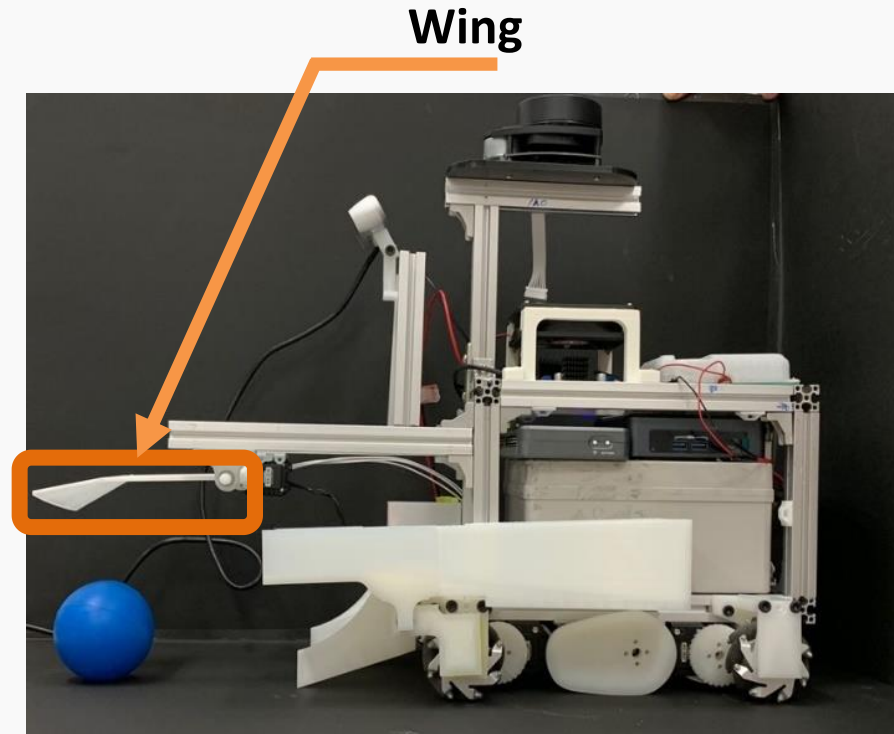
03 - Motor Control

Labview



Motor Control

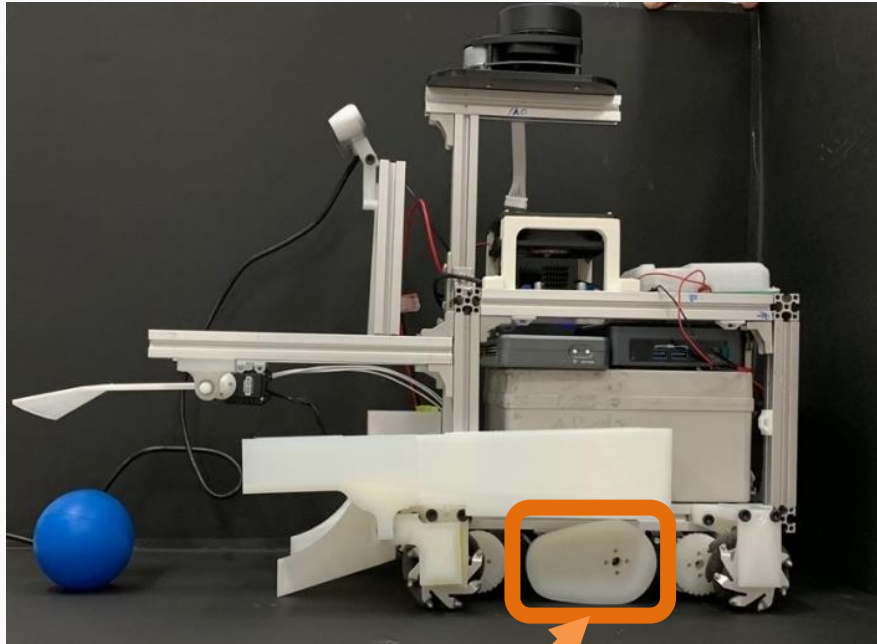
- Multifunctional Wing



- Wing & cam are used for **both pick-up and drop**
- Make functions **more reliable**, while keeping **compact** design

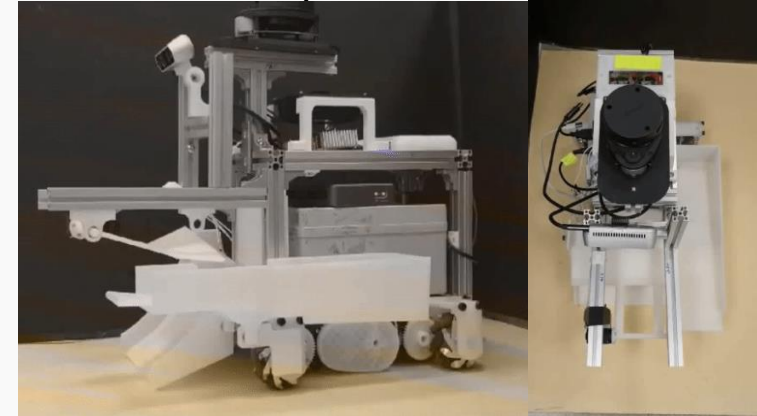
Motor Control

- Multifunctional Cam

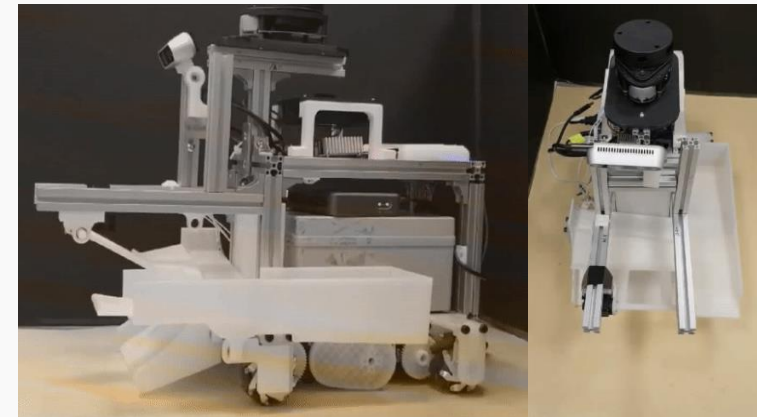


Cam

Drop-off motion



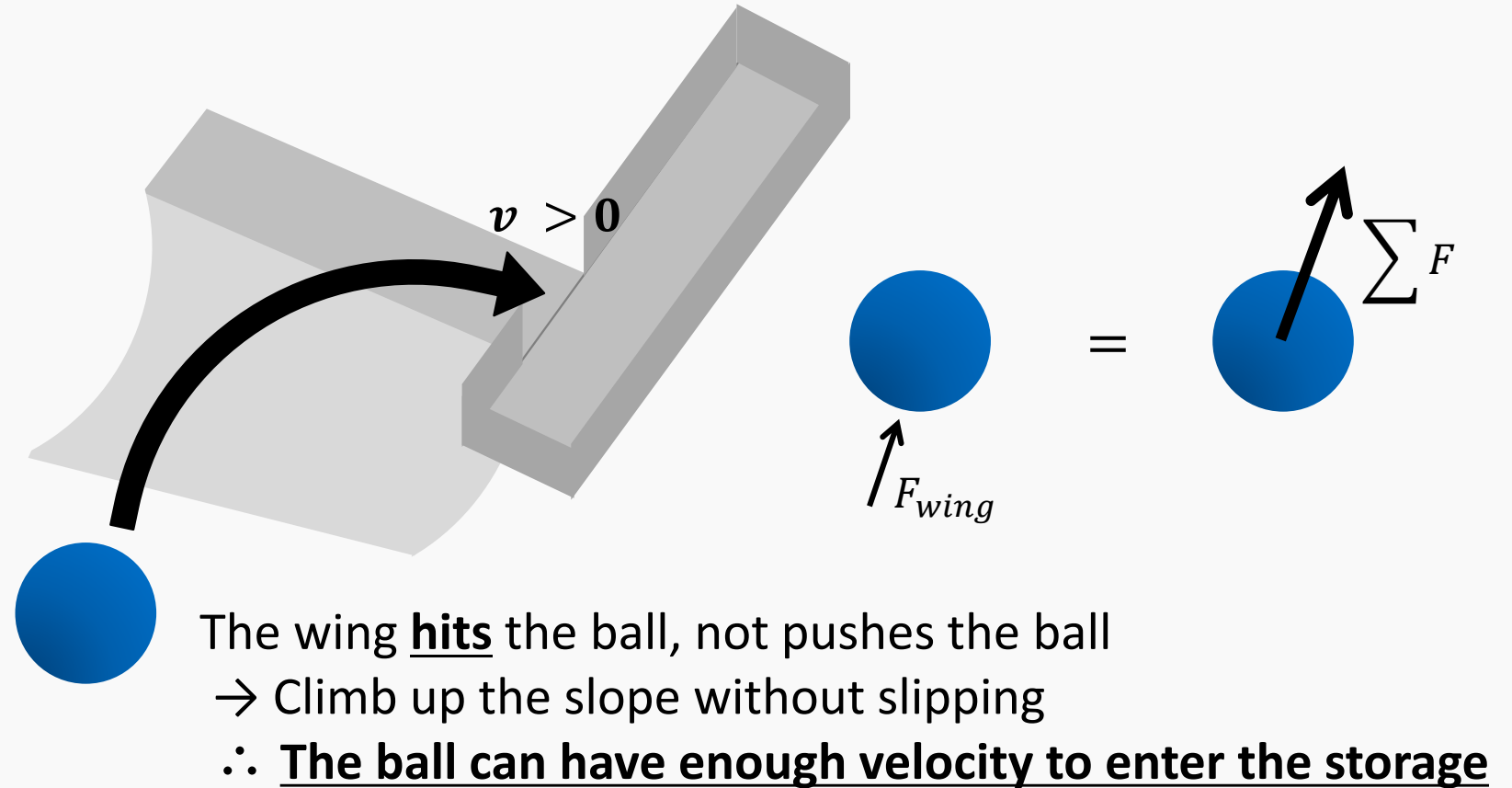
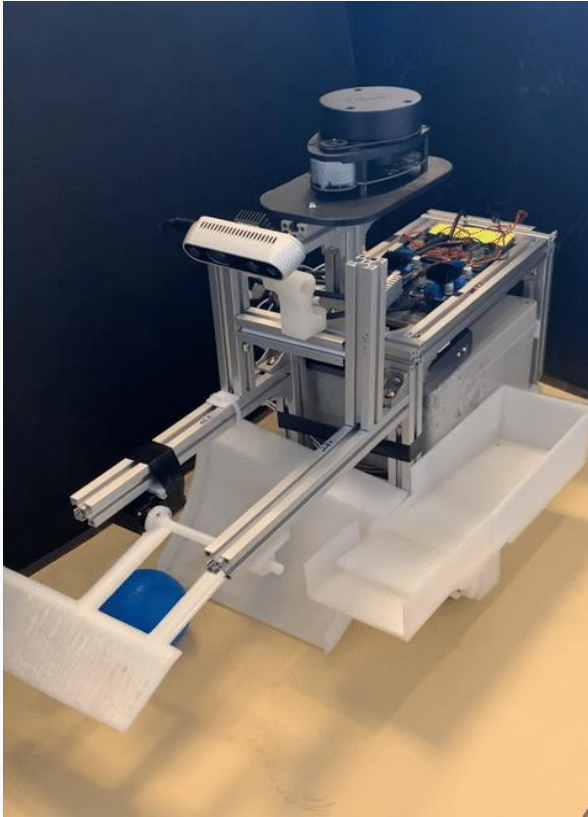
Vibration feeder



- Wing & cam are used for **both pick-up and drop**
- Make functions **more reliable**, while keeping **compact** design

Motor Control

1. Smart wing control for reliable pickup motion

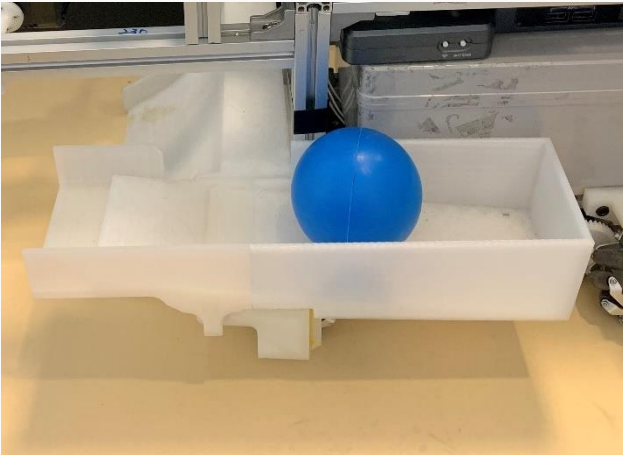


We achieved more reliable pickup motion!

Motor Control

2. Cam control to overcome the sticking of a ball

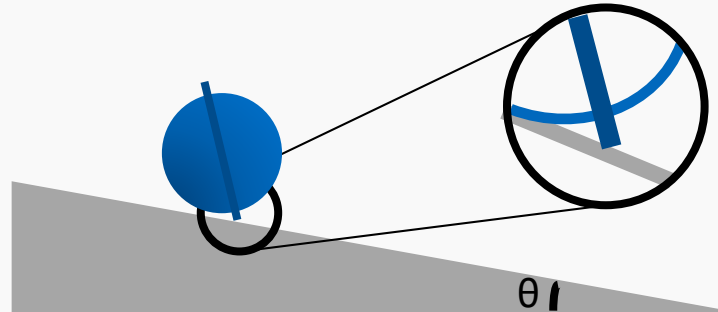
Observation



Ball might stop on the storage

- Blocks another entering ball

Cause



A ball stops due to unevenness*

- To avoid this, tilt angle must be 9.3°
→ Make the drop-off motion hard

Solution

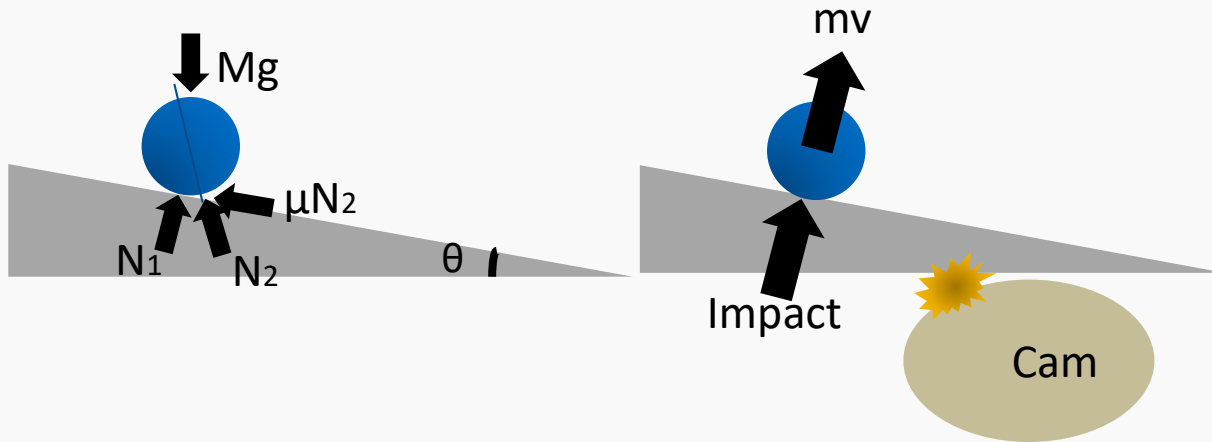


Idea from Vibration feeder

- Repeatedly tap on the storage
→ Overcome the stuck position

Motor Control

2. Cam control to overcome the sticking of a ball



Desired value : Cam angular speed N_{cam}

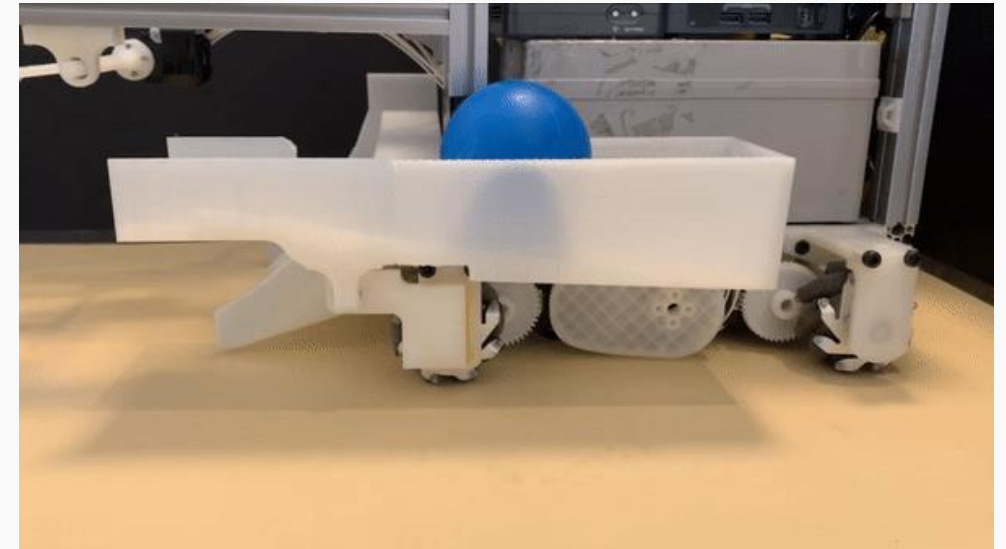
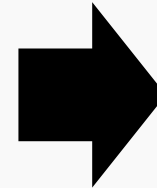
From the law of energy conservation,

$$V_{ball} = \sqrt{2g\Delta h} = 0.001224 \text{ m/sec}$$

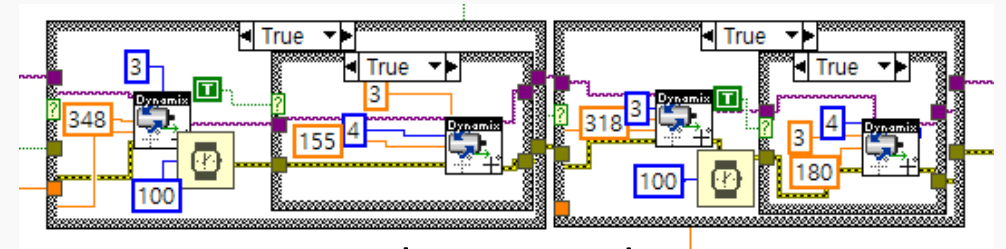
By the geometrical relation,

$$V_{ball} = \omega_{cam} r_{cam} = \omega_{sto} r_{sto}$$
$$\therefore N_{cam} = 1.25 \text{ RPM}$$

※ Empirically, $N_{cam} = 3 \text{ rpm}$ works well*



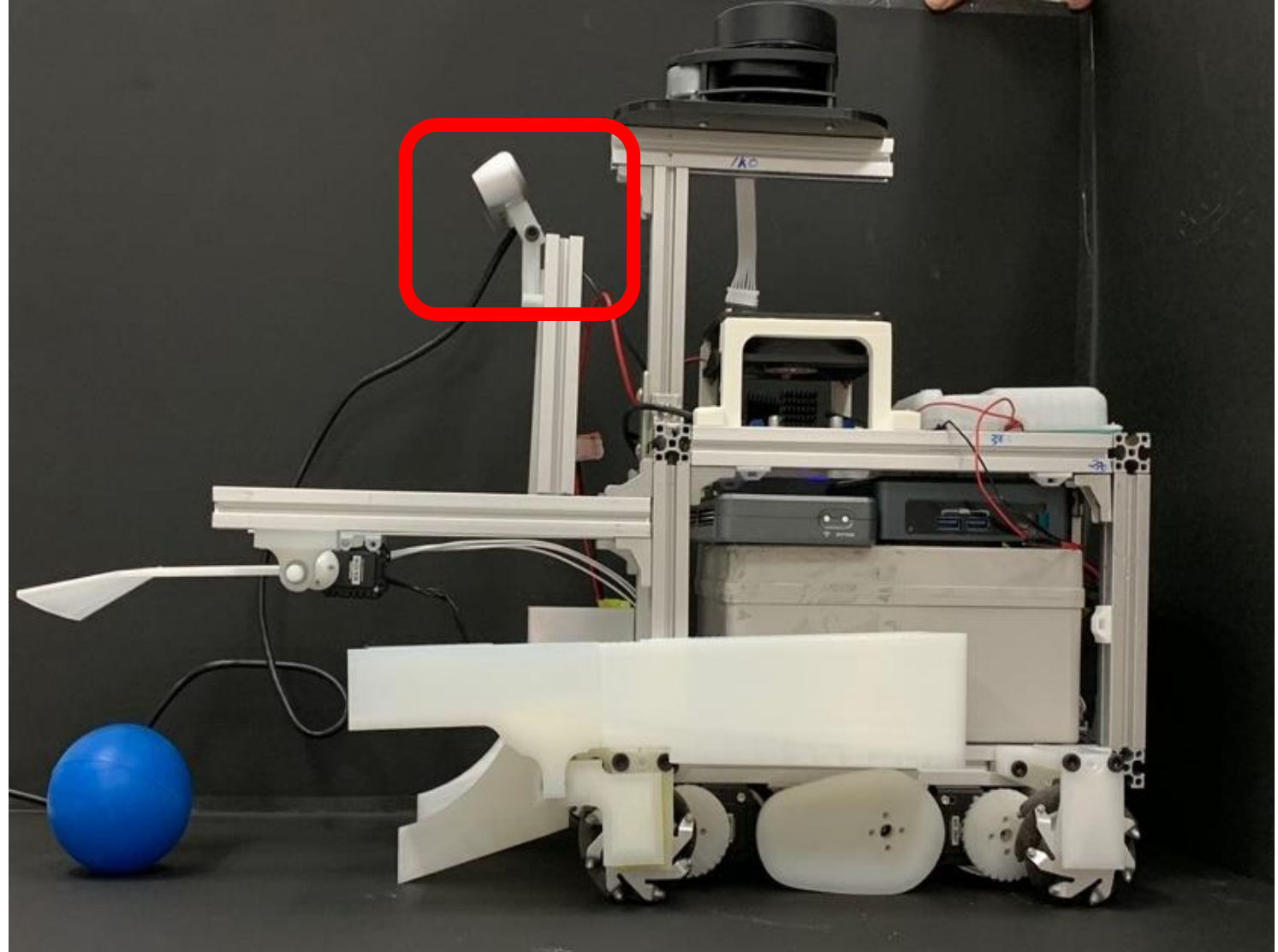
Implementation



LabVIEW code

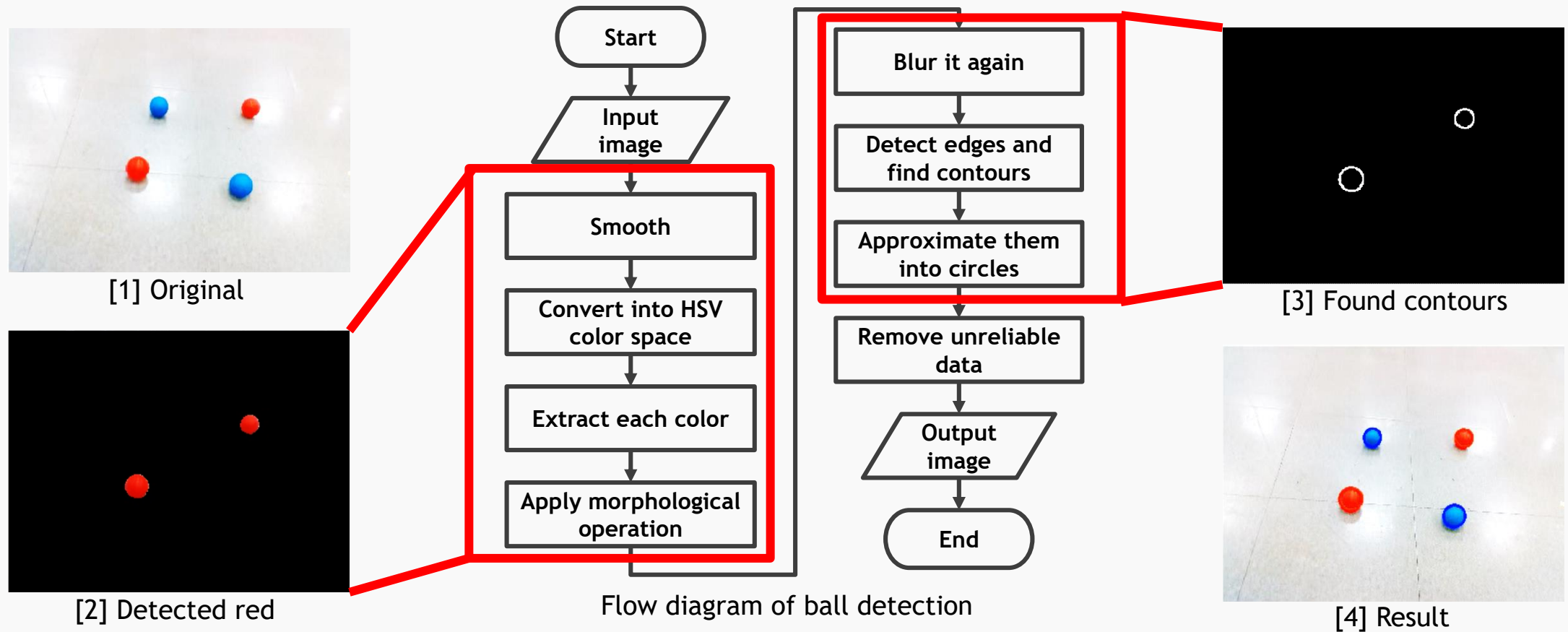
04 - Vision Processing

Open CV



Vision Processing

■ Ball Detection



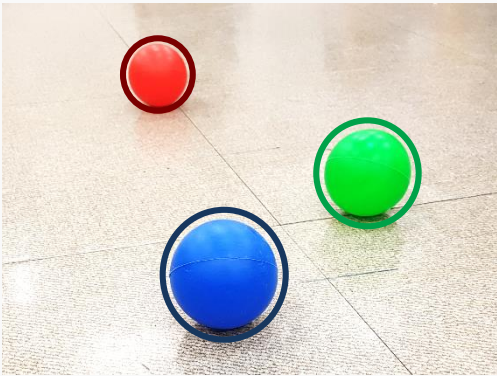
1. Filtered out three different color components in HSV color space.
2. Estimate the objects' shapes and their center positions

Vision Processing

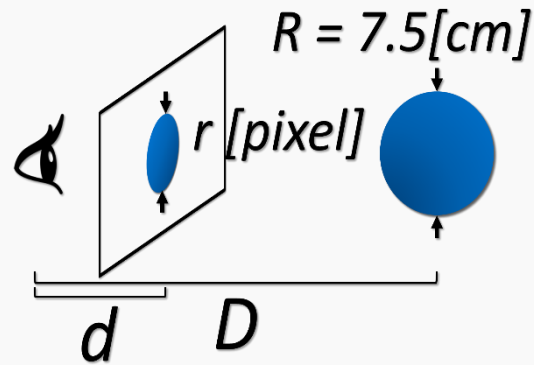
■ Measuring distance using RGB-D camera

Given webcam

RGB Image



Scheme of calculating D



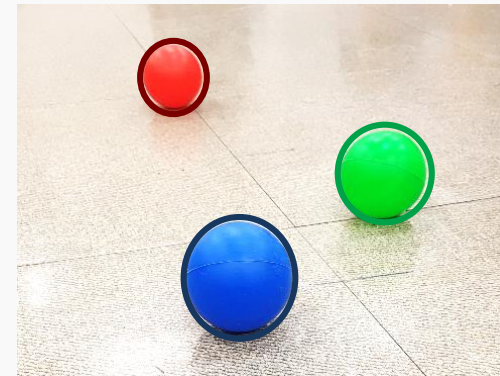
$$D = \frac{r}{R} d$$

→ To ensure D , r should be accurate

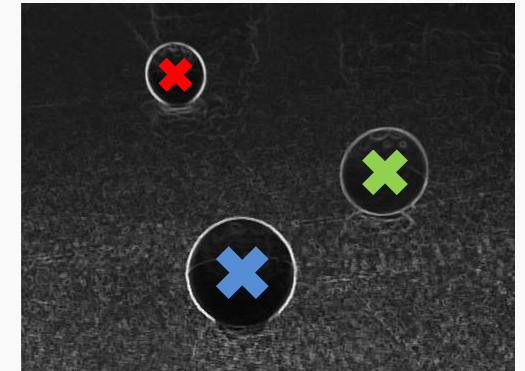
- “Calculate” a ball’s distance
- Vulnerable to vibration and occlusion

Using RGB-D camera

RGB Image



Depth Image



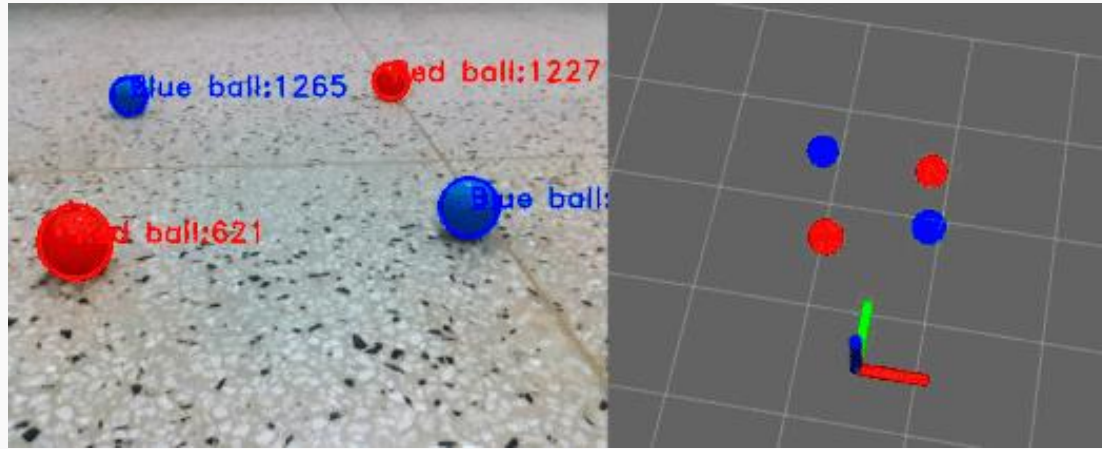
$$D = I_{depth}(x, y)$$

→ Does not have to rely on r

- Precisely “measure” a ball’s distance
- Robust to vibration and occlusion

Vision Processing

- Performance evaluation of using RGB-D camera



Occlusion



Vibration



Given webcam

Highly affected by occlusion/Vibration

RGB-D camera

Occlusion/vibration hardly affect

Vision Processing

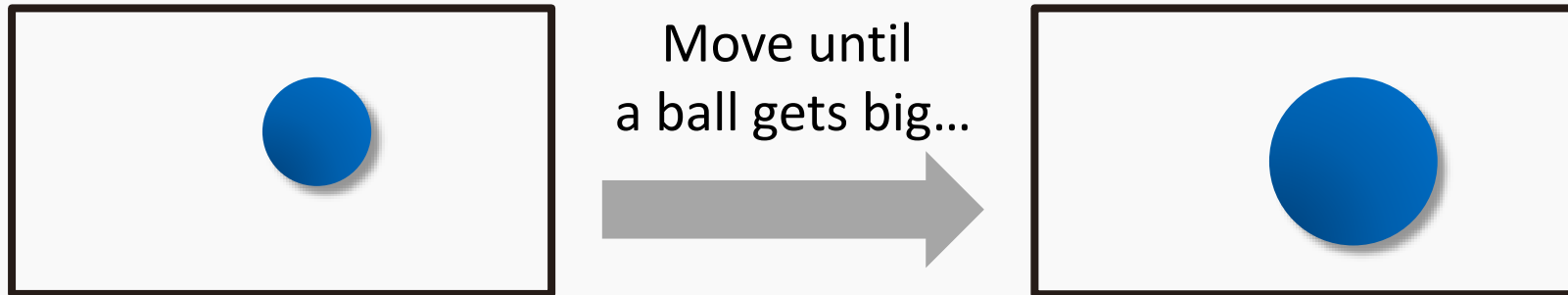
■ Extrinsic Calibration

The simplest way to command a robot is...

1. Align a ball



2. Move forward



→ Not sophisticated...

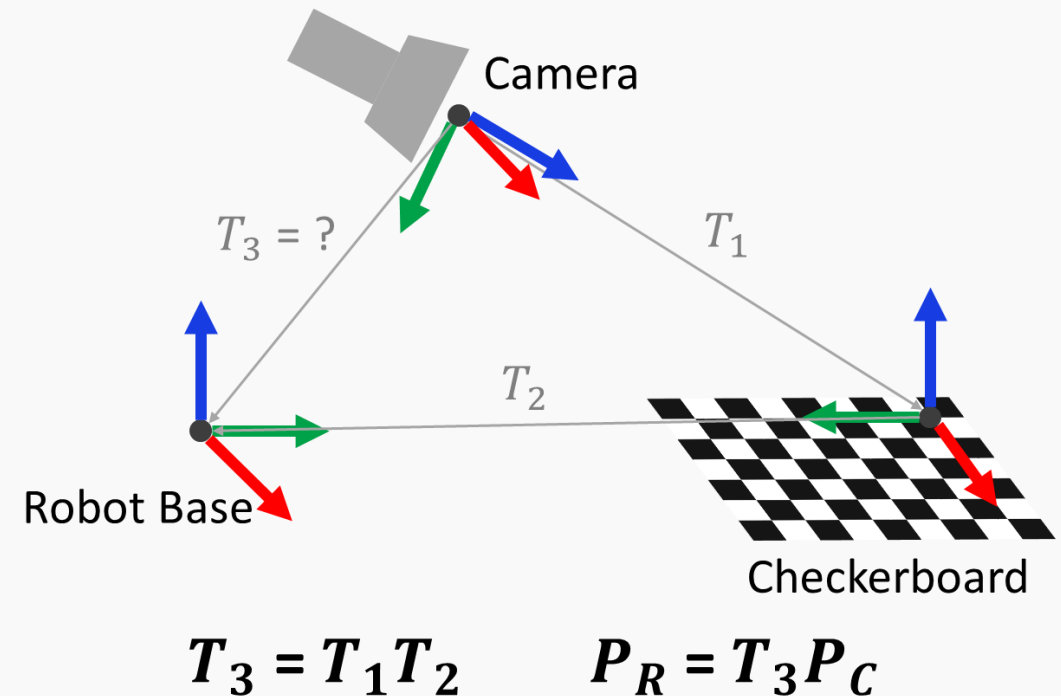
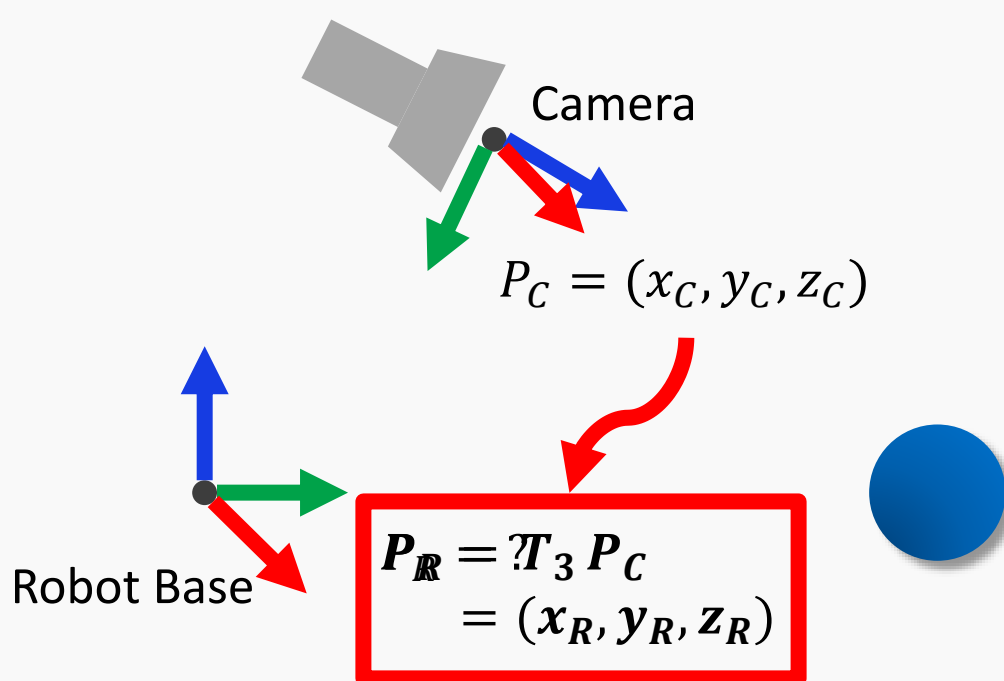
Can we command a ball's position **with respect to the robot**?

Vision Processing

■ Extrinsic Calibration

Calibrate between the camera and the base of the robot via a checkerboard

- Guarantees a ball's location in conjunction with reliable range information from the RGB-D camera ($\sim 1\text{cm}$ within 1m^2)
- A ball's position with respect to the robot \rightarrow Ensures more intuitive & smart motion

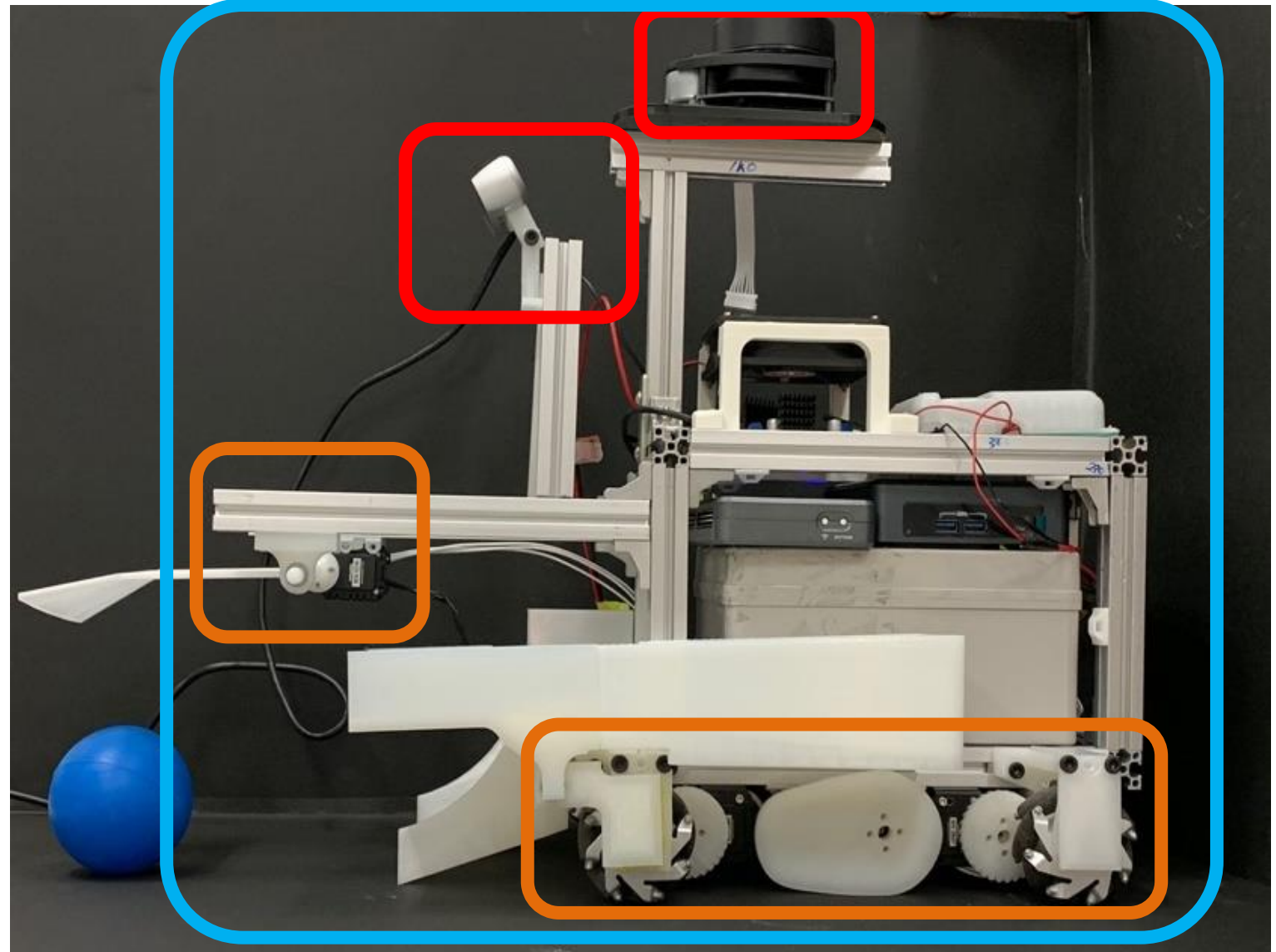


05 - System Integration

Labview

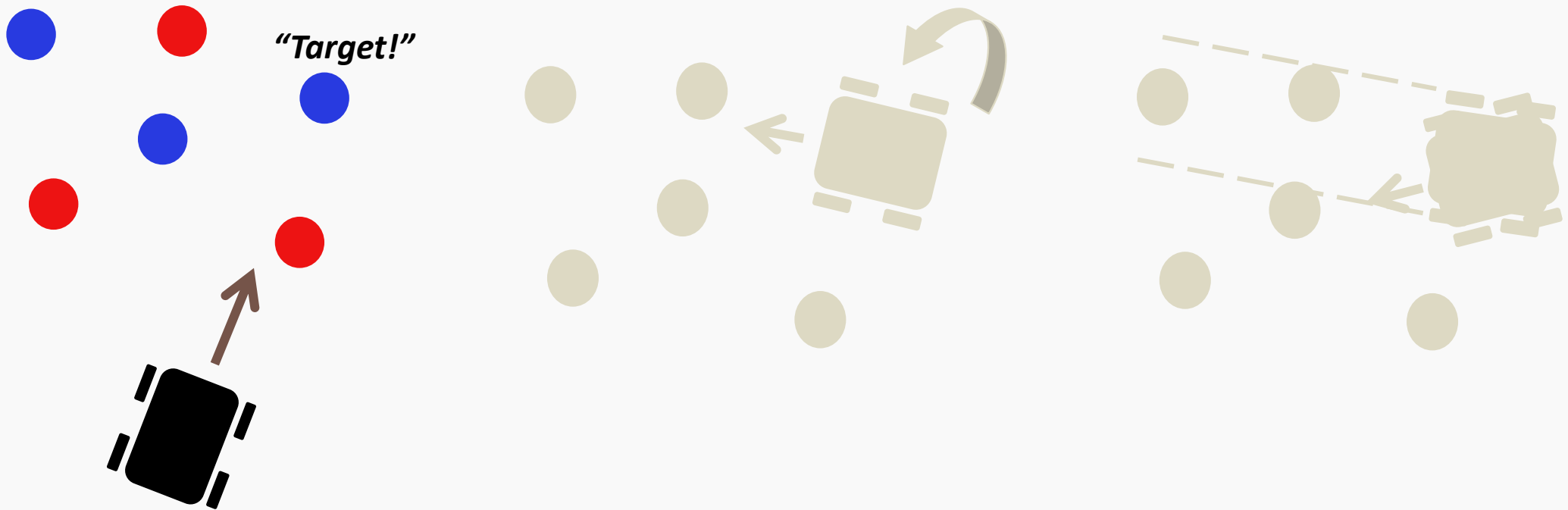
ROS

Open CV



System Integration

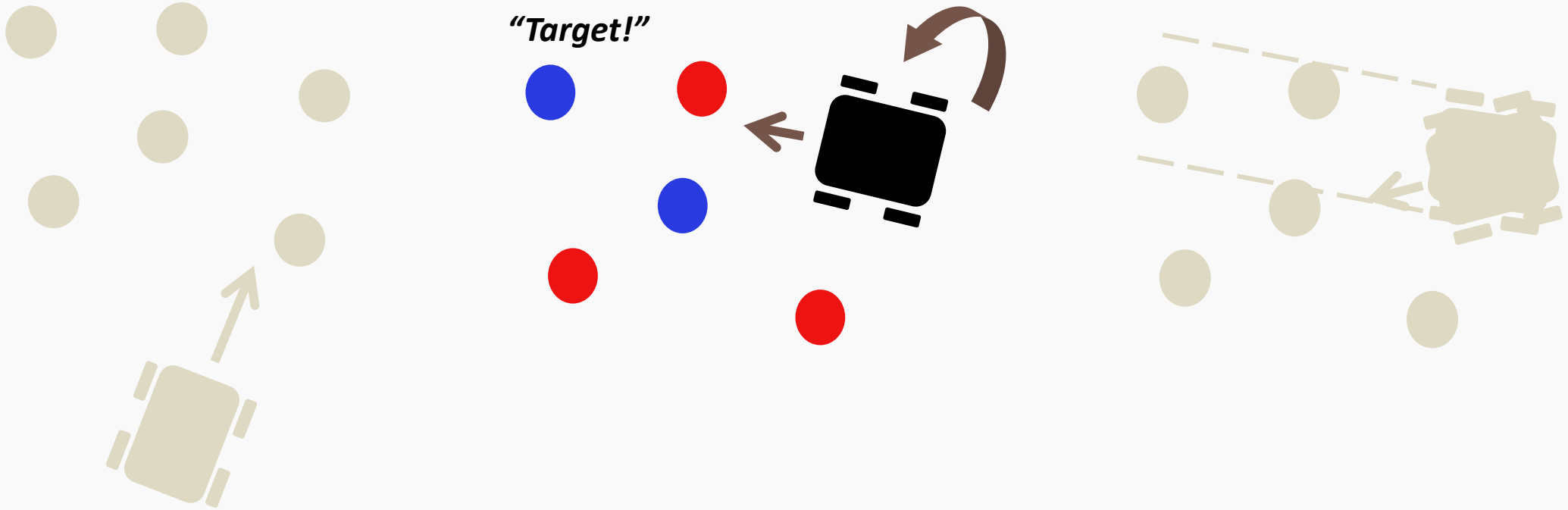
■ Path finding algorithm – Overview



Rule 1 . If no exception, Target the **rightmost** ball

System Integration

■ Path finding algorithm – Overview



Rule 2 . If no exception, turn **CCW** to find next target

System Integration

■ Path finding algorithm – Overview

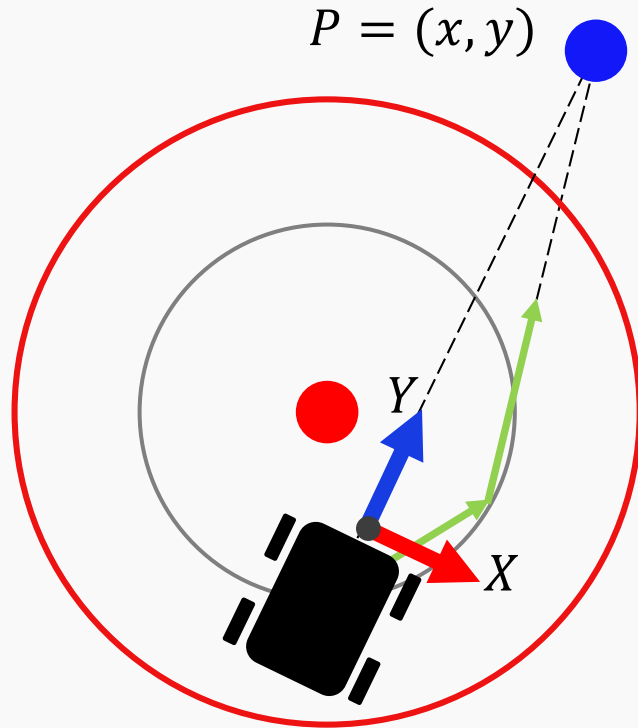


Exception : When another near blue ball is in route...

Rule 3 : If an exception happens, **change the priority** to near ball
Rotate **CW** to find next ball (so-called Checker Method)

System Integration

■ Path finding algorithm – Detouring Red Ball



*No other balls inside red area (50cm boundary)

How to detour red?

- Move along inscribed isosceles triangles
- Using 2D coordinate & by its minimum width, **rotate minimum angle**

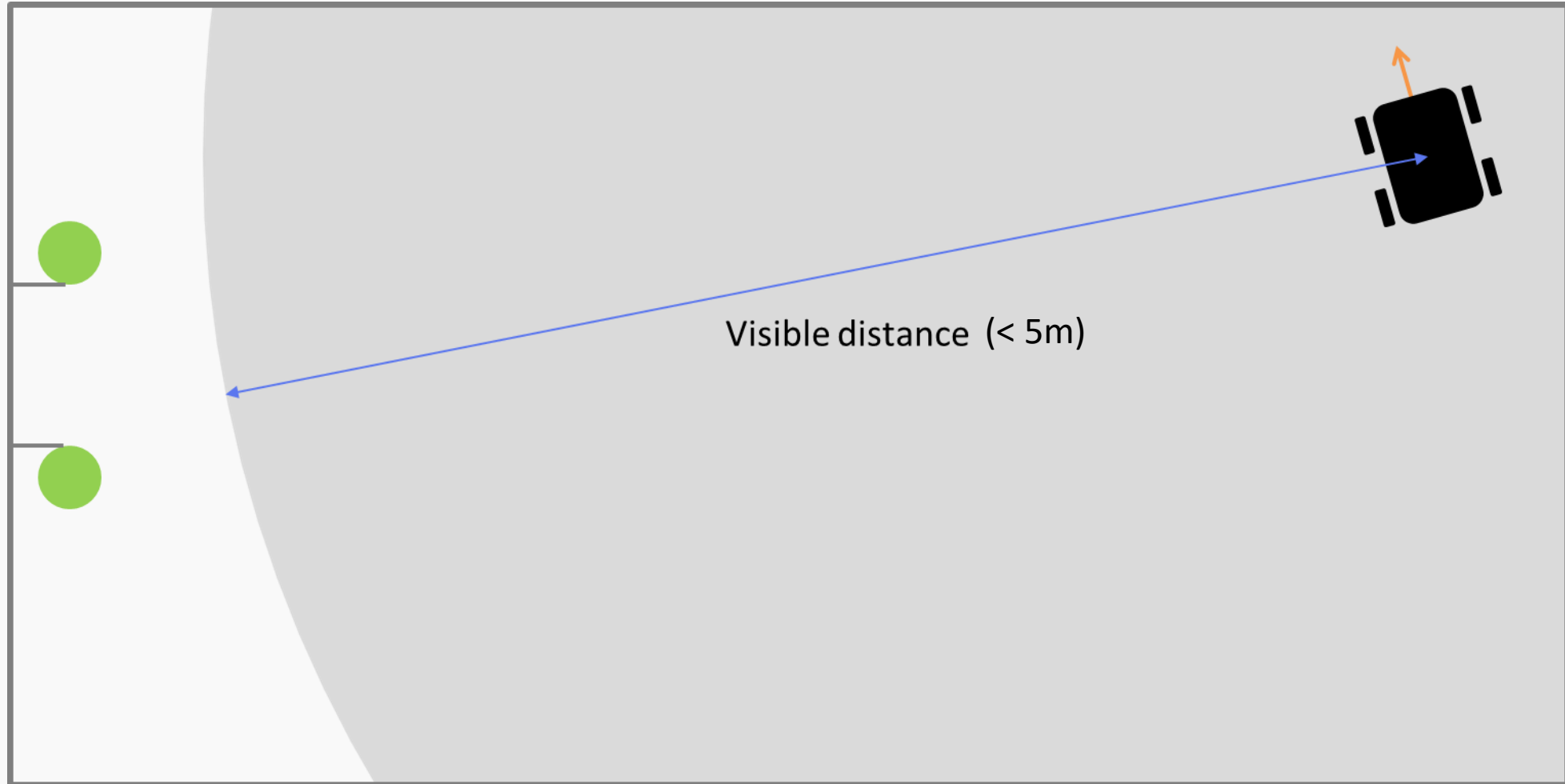
Advantages

- Does not affect other balls while detouring
- Collect blue balls no matter where red balls are at
∴ Reliable & smart motion

System Integration

- **Return to the starting point**

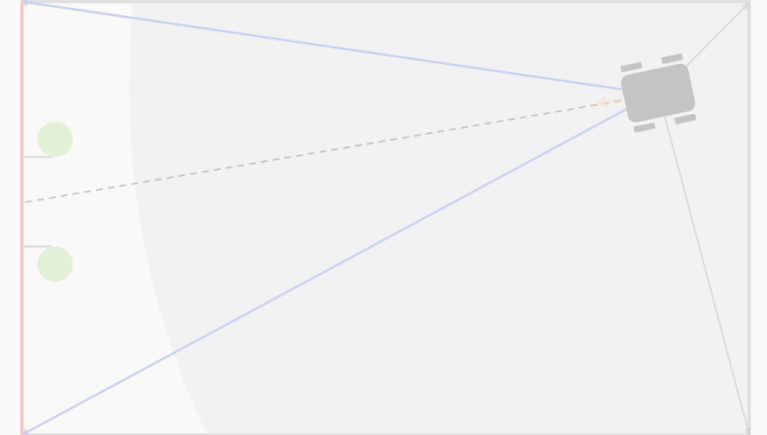
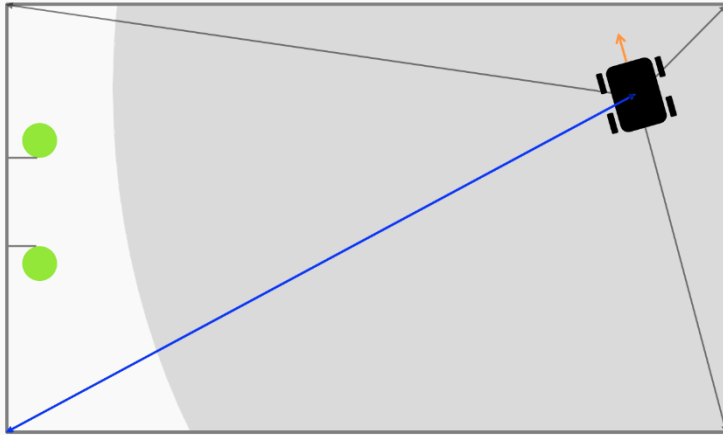
Problem when using camera only : it may not see the green balls



System Integration

- Return to the starting point

Solution : Use **rpLidar** to find the exact location of the goal*



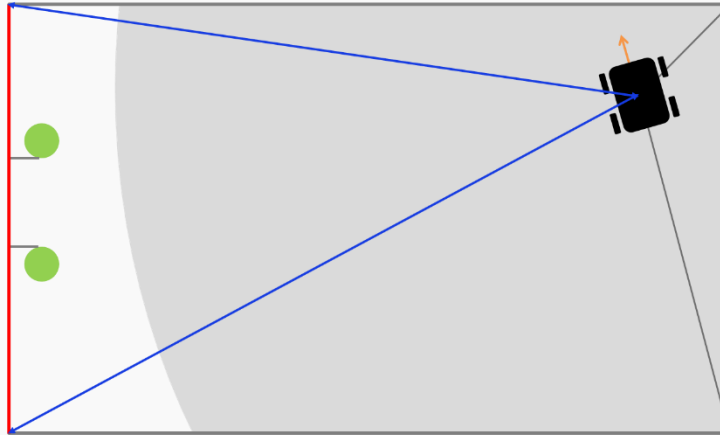
1. Find corners

- Using lidar range data, find corners and their distances
- Choose the farthest corner

System Integration

- Return to the starting point

Solution : Use **rpLidar** to find the exact location of the goal*



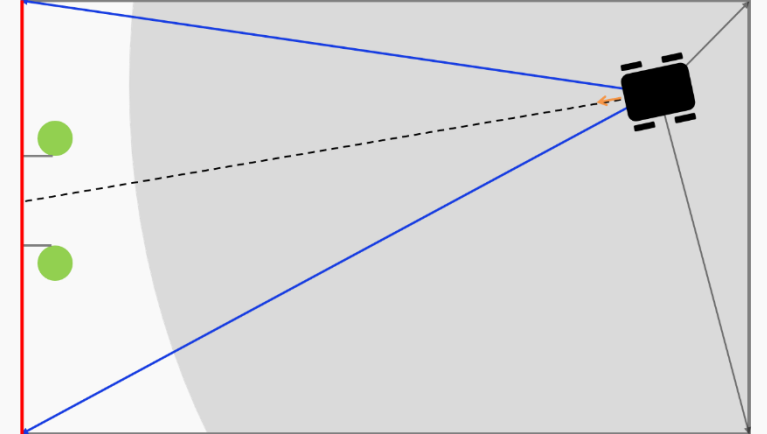
2. Find the goal

- Calculate the side length using cosine law
- The goal is on the shorter side → we can find the goal position

System Integration

- Return to the starting point

Solution : Use **rpLidar** to find the exact location of the goal*



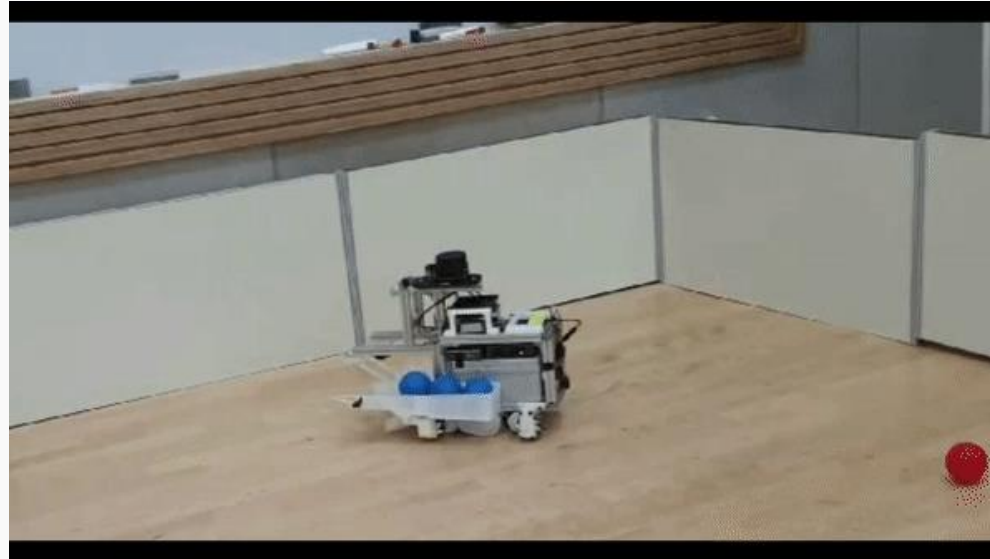
3. Align toward the goal

- Turn toward the goal position
- During the process, repeat 1-2 until with feedback control

System Integration

- **Return to the starting point**

Solution : **Use rpLidar** to find the exact location of the goal*



3. Align toward the goal

- Turn toward the goal position
- During the process, repeat 1-2 until with feedback control

06

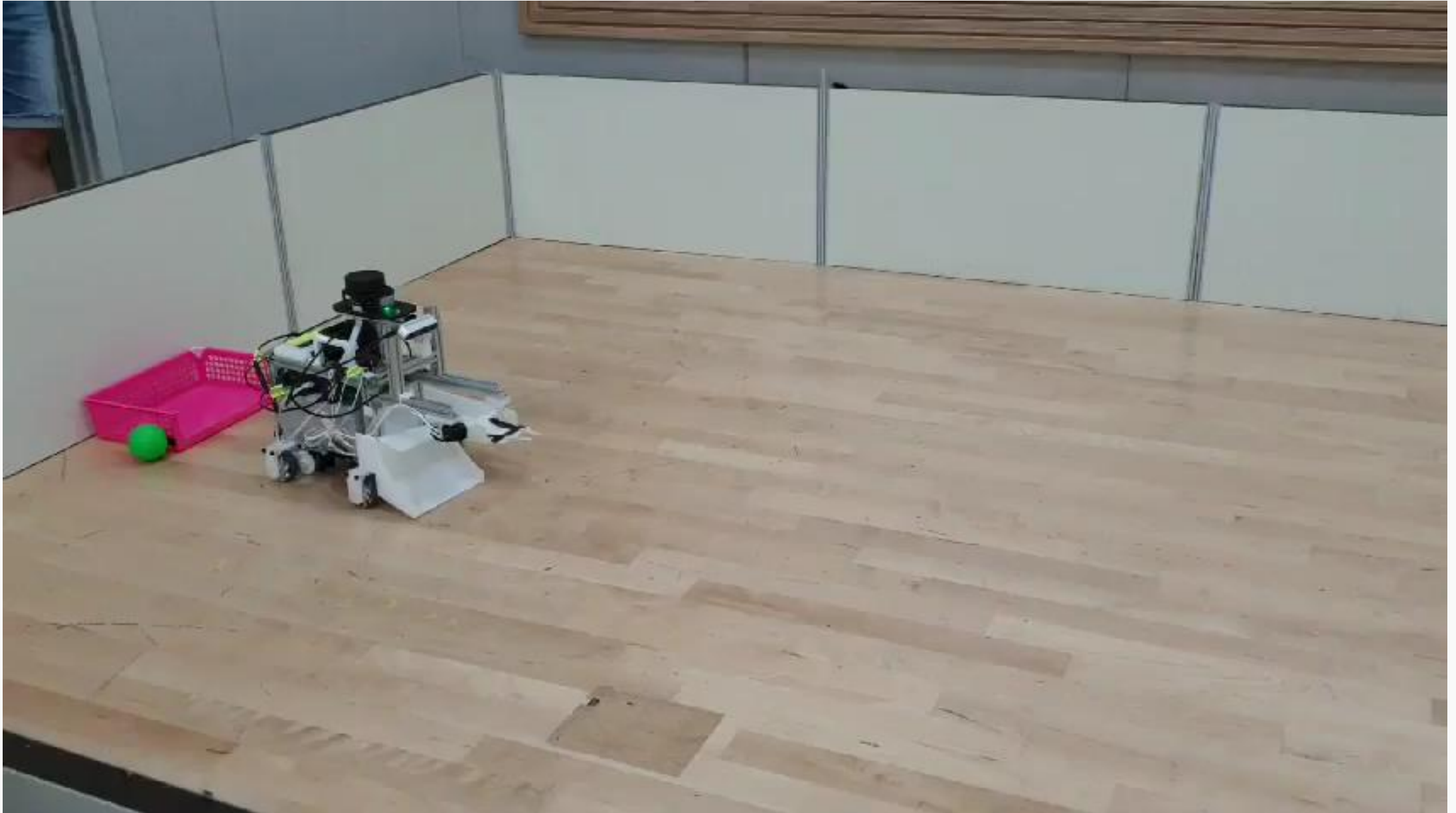
Demo Video



Demo Video – The Fastest Case



Demo Video – The Hardest Case



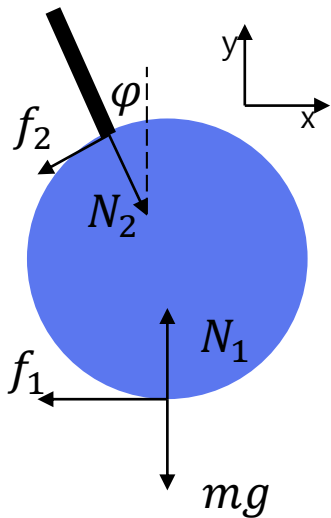
Q&A



Appendix-1 : Pick-up Mechanics

Why the ball should be located inside the wing

FBD of ball



$$f_1 = \mu_1 N_1, f_2 = \mu_2 N_2$$

(μ_1 : friction coefficient of ball on concrete floor, μ_2 : friction coefficient of ball on PLA)

$$\sum F_x = N_2 \sin \varphi - f_1 - f_2 \cos \varphi$$

$$\sum F_y = N_1 - mg - N_2 \cos \varphi - f_2 \sin \varphi$$

$$\sum T = r f_2 - r f_1$$

If ball is fastened when Φ is $0 < \Phi < \pi$, it should satisfy these following conditions $\sum F_x = 0, \sum F_y = 0, \sum T = 0$

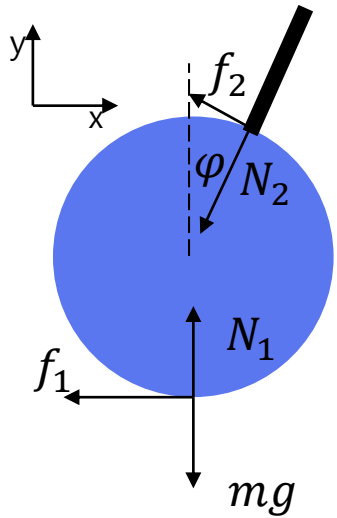
When you solve this equation, answer is $\varphi = \frac{1-\mu_2^2}{1+\mu_2^2}, N_2 = \frac{mg}{\frac{\mu_2}{\mu_1} - \cos \varphi - \mu_2 \sin \varphi}$.

However, this is a contradiction in specifying the magnitude of the force applied to the ball from the wing. Therefore, the case of ball located inside the wing is not fastened.

Appendix-1 : Pick-up Mechanics

Why the ball should not be located outside the wing

FBD of ball



$$f_1 = \mu_1 N_1, \quad f_2 = \mu_2 N_2$$

(μ_1 : friction coefficient of ball on concrete floor, μ_2 : friction coefficient of ball on PLA)

$$\sum F_x = -N_2 \sin \varphi - f_1 - f_2 \cos \varphi$$

$$\sum F_y = N_1 - mg - N_2 \cos \varphi + f_2 \sin \varphi$$

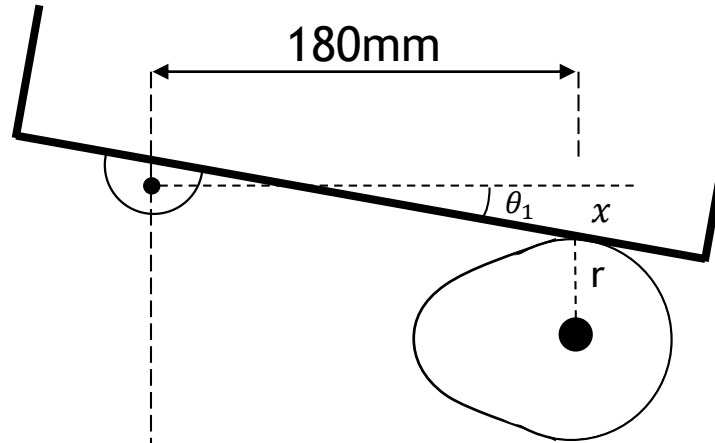
$$\sum T = r f_2 - r f_1$$

$\sum F_x$ is always negative so the ball move to $-x$ direction.
This makes that we can not eat the ball.

Therefore, the ball should not be located outside the wing.

Appendix-2 : Cam & Follower Motion

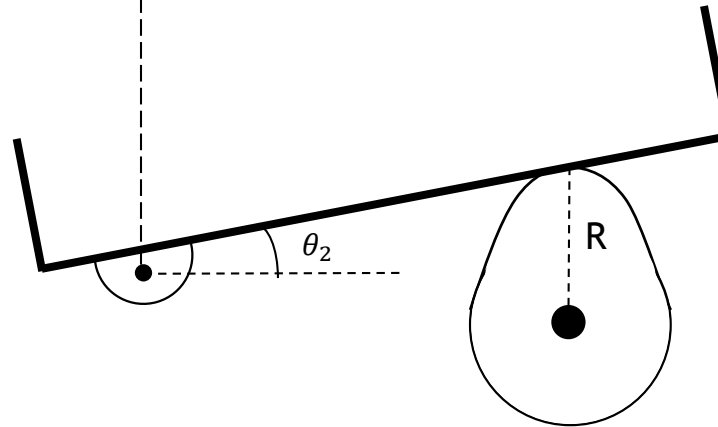
Before drop



$$r = 180 \tan \theta_1 - x$$
$$\theta_1 = 7.6^\circ$$

$$r = 30\text{mm}, x = 6\text{mm}$$

After drop



$$R = 180 \tan \theta_2 + x + r$$
$$\theta_2 = 7.5^\circ$$

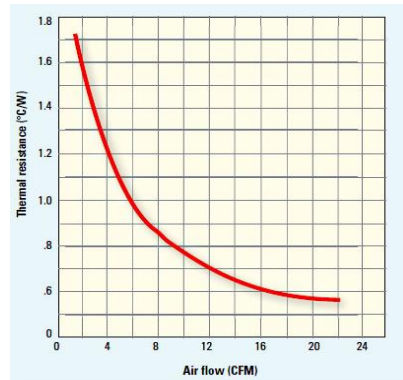
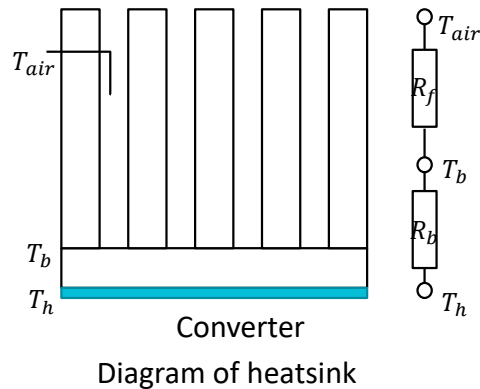
$$R = 70\text{mm}$$

Appendix-3 : Heat Problem

Converter is known as the primary heat source *

NCP1529 – 1 A DC to DC converter release maximum 720mW

3cm X 3cm Aluminum Heatsink with >16CFM can cover 731mW



Air flow – thermal resistance graph for 5'' X 5'' Aluminum Heatsink **

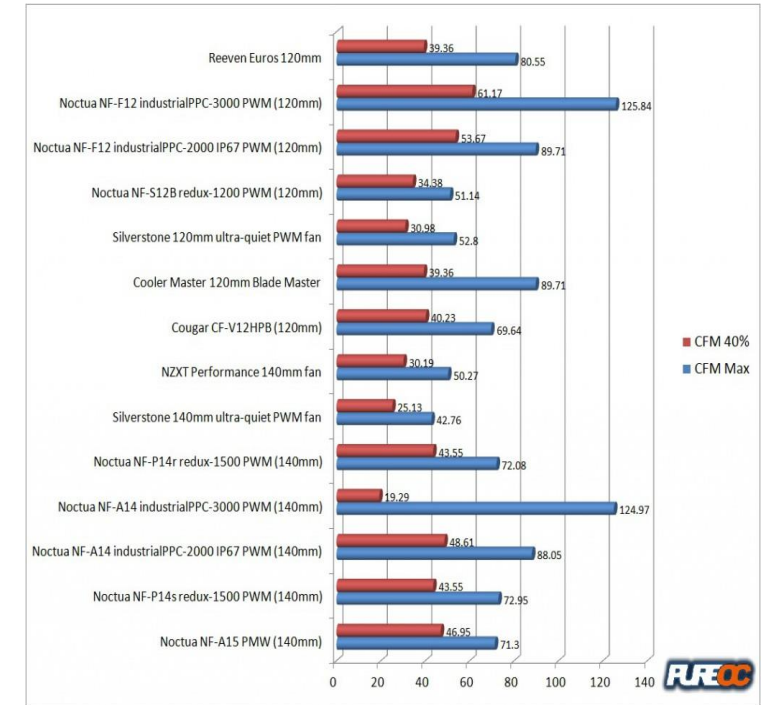
Our goal : below 35° C
(room temperature 27° C)

$$R_{total} = \frac{1}{\eta_o h A_t} = \frac{T_h - T_{air}}{q}$$

(where $\eta_o = 1 - \frac{N A_f}{A_t} (1 - \eta_f)$)

$$\eta_f = \frac{\tanh m L_c}{m L_c}, m L_c = \left(\frac{h P}{k A_c} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Convection coefficient $h = \frac{Nu k_{air}}{D}$
(Nu can be determined by air velocity and geometry of heatsink.)



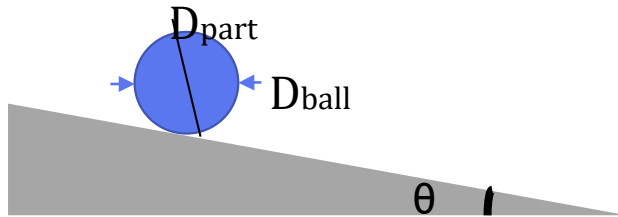
120mm Fan performances (Source : <http://www.pureoverclock.com>)

Appendix-4 : Vibration feeder



- Simplified version of the theory behind the project An object or particle is placed on a slope. The frictional force(s) prevents the object from rolling/sliding down the slope. When an external force is acted on the slope, it will drop down and back. The object/particle will “fall” onto a higher point on slope. Due to the frictional force(s), the object/particle wouldn’t return to the original point on the slope. Repeating this will cause the object/particle to “climb” up the slope. (Gordon H. Y. Wong)

Appendix-4 : Vibration feeder–How it works



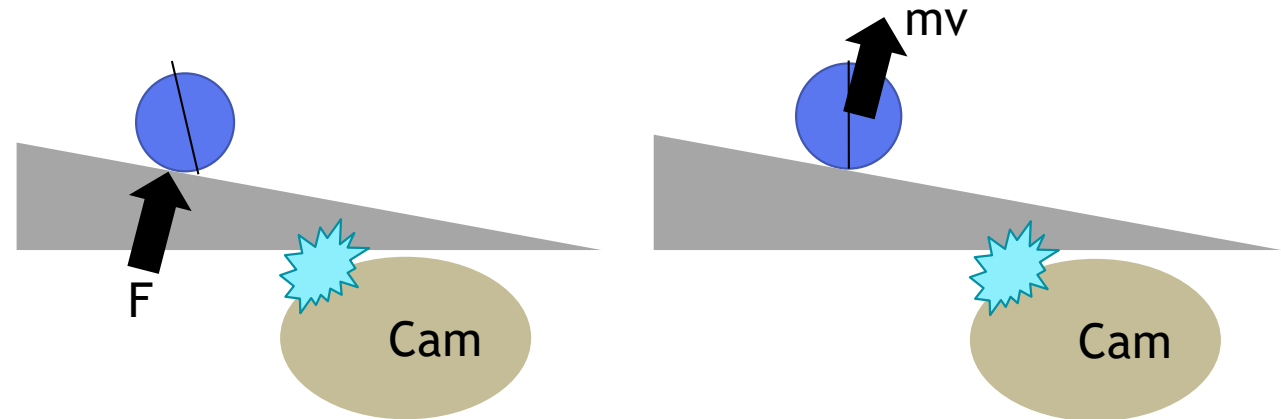
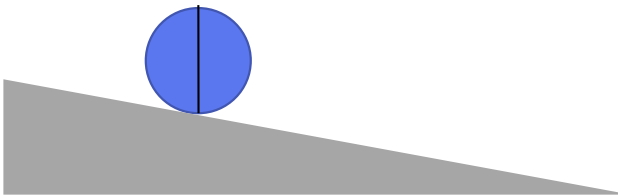
$\theta = 7^\circ$, $D_{ball} = 75\text{mm}$, $D_{part} = 77\text{mm}$, $g = 10\text{m/s}^2$

Without movement, We need

$$\theta = \theta_c = 1 - \sin \frac{76}{77} = 9.3^\circ$$

to overcome the parting line stuck.

That's hard condition



Energy conservation

$$mV_{ball}^2 = mg\Delta h$$

$$V_{ball} = \sqrt{2g\Delta h} = 1.224\text{mm/s}^2$$

$$\Delta h = r(1 - \cos \frac{75}{77}) = 0.0612\text{mm}$$

$$g = 9.81\text{m/s}^2$$

$$V_{con} = V_{ball} l_{sto} / l_{ball} = \omega_{cam} l_{cam}$$

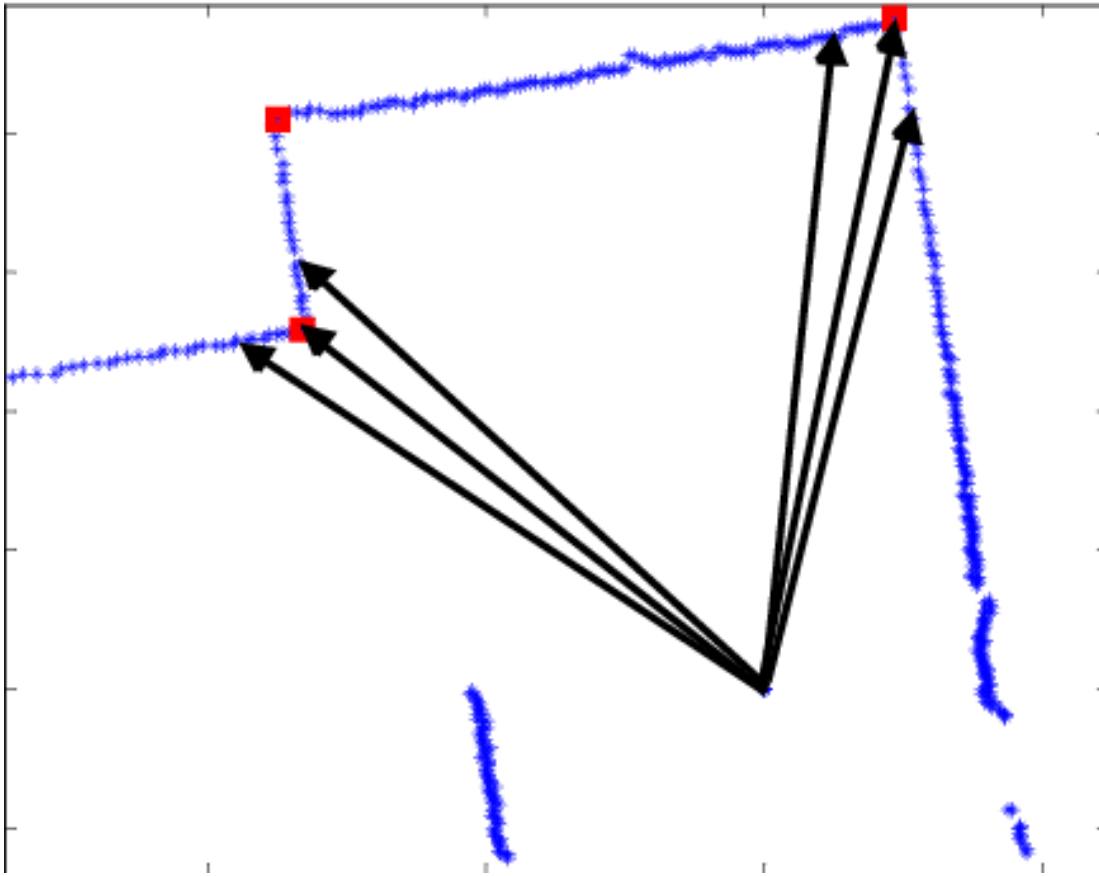
$$\omega_{cam} = \frac{V_{ball} r_{sto}}{l_{cam} l_{ball}} = \frac{150 \cdot 0.001224}{20 \cdot 70} = 0.131 \text{ rad/sec}$$

$$N_{cam} = 1.25 \text{ rpm}$$

From real experiment, We put practical value

$$N_{cam} = 1.25 \text{ rpm}$$

Appendix-5 : Detect Corners with rpLidar



We found the article that suggests good method for detecting corners with lidar.

$$\sum_{j=m-M/2}^{m+M/2} |r_m - r_j| \geq r_{corner_threshold}$$

Since we only need to detect concave corners, we modified the algorithm

$$\sum_{j=m-M/2}^{m+M/2} \frac{r_m - r_j}{r_j} \geq r_{corner_threshold}$$

By modulating the threshold value, we could successfully detect four corners.