



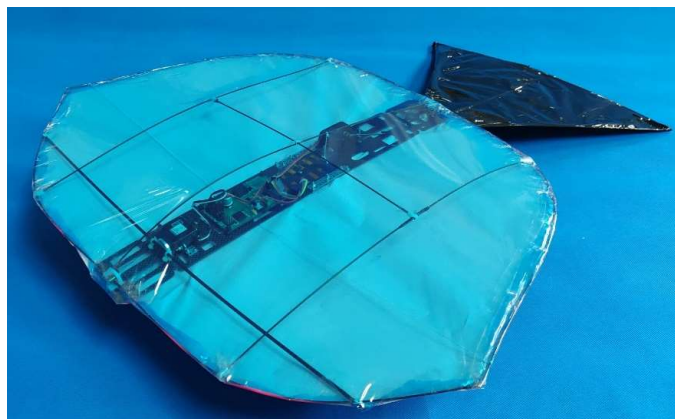
# Gliding Pitch Control Model of Bionic Flying Squirrel Robot

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Flying squirrel



Bionic flying squirrel robot

# Outline

1. Introduction
2. Mathematical and control model
3. Simulation and experiments
4. Conclusions and prospects

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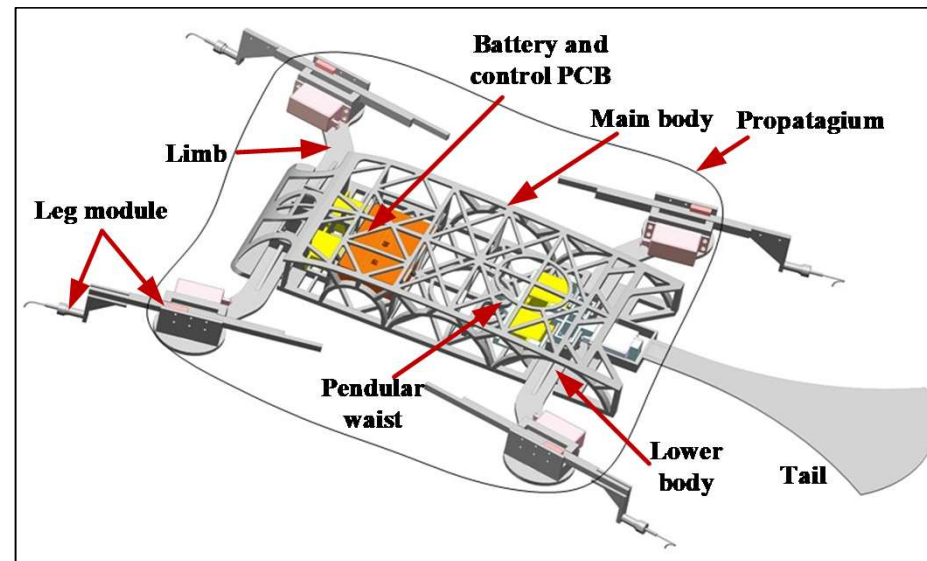
# Flying Squirrel

- Has abilities of climbing and gliding
- Mobile space: 2D-3D
- Transfer rapidly in 3D space
- Low noise and energy consumption



# Bionic flying squirrel robot (BSR)

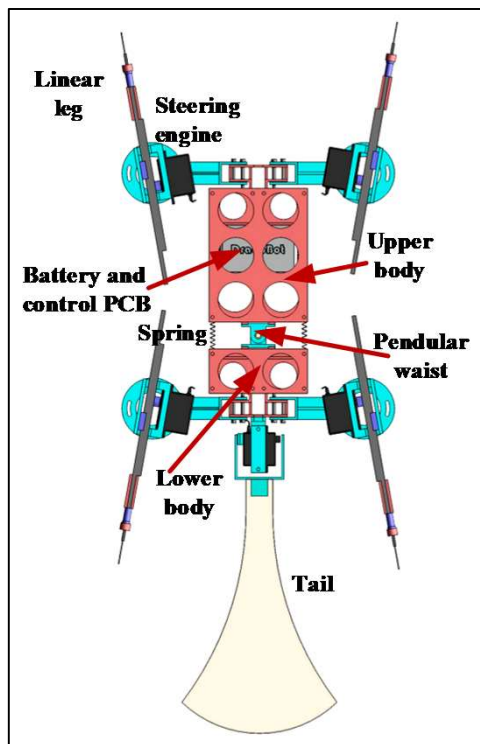
- BSR has nine degrees of freedom
- Four prismatic pairs in axial legs are used to climb
- Five revolute pairs in limbs and tail to glide



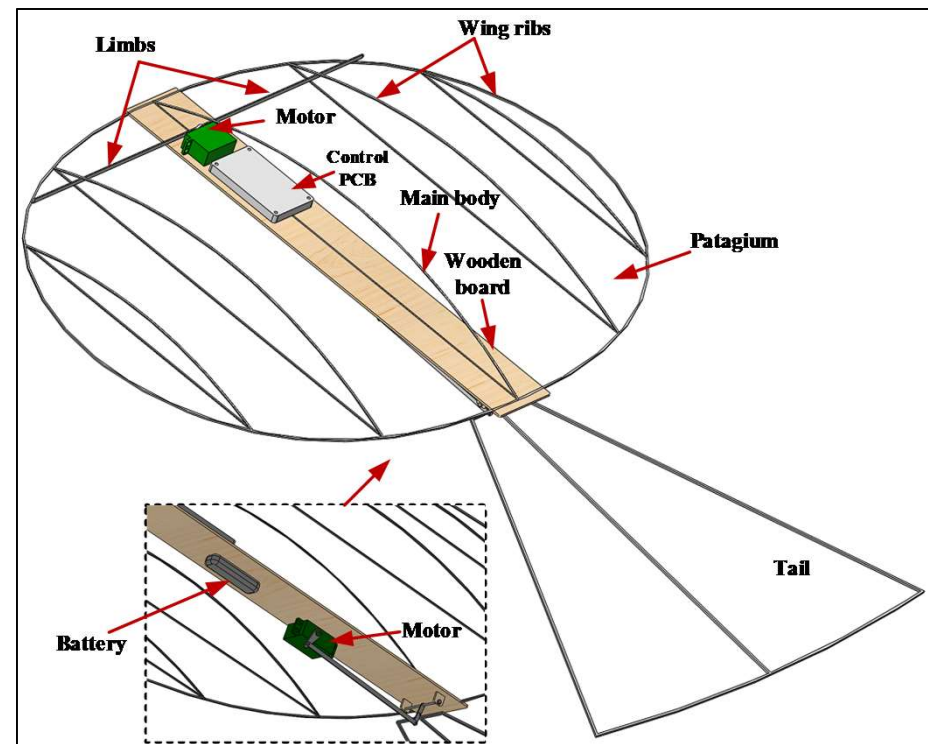
Bionic flying squirrel multi-mode robot

# Bionic flying squirrel robot (BSR)

- BSR consists of two parts



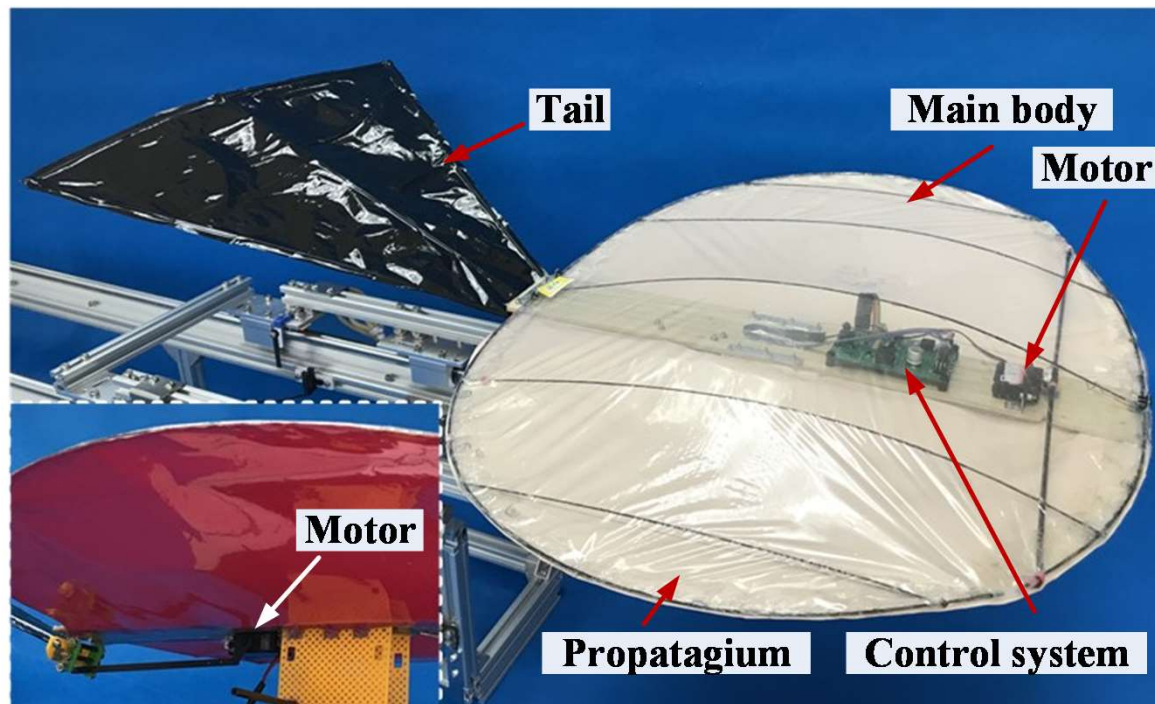
Wall-climbing part of BSR



Gliding part of BSR

# Bionic flying squirrel robot (BSR)

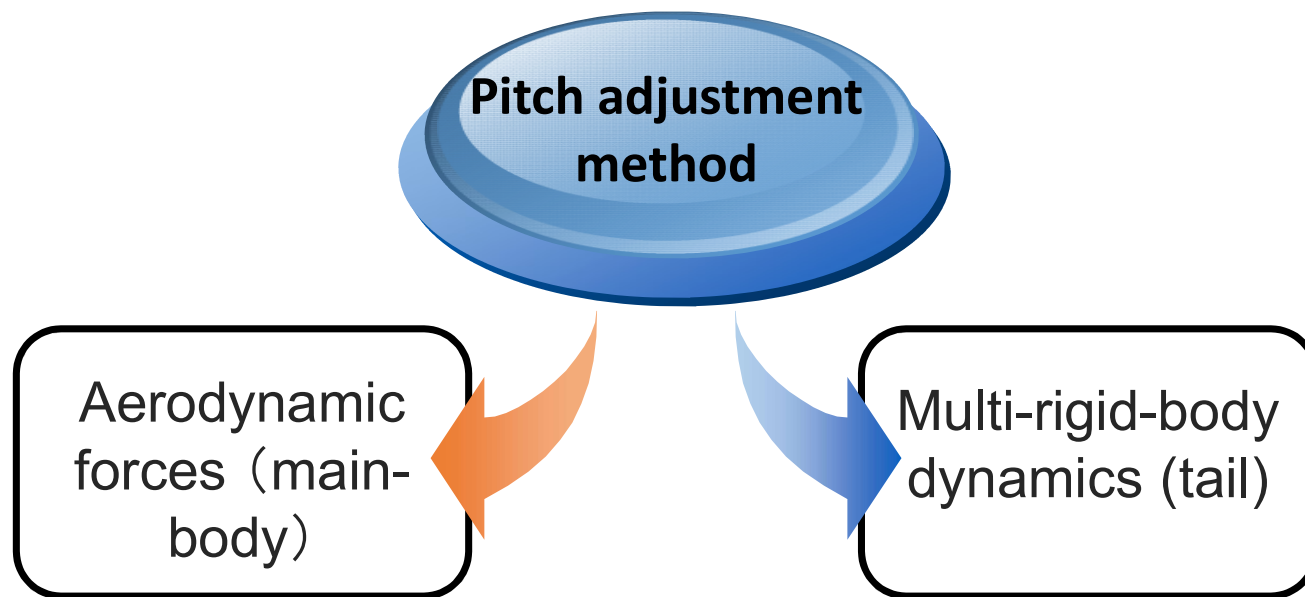
- Simplified gliding physical prototype of pitching motion adjustment.



- Tail's movement adjusts BSR's pitching motion.

# Summary - Introduction to BSR

- BSR has abilities of climbing and gliding
- Key points: BSR's stability of the pitching motion





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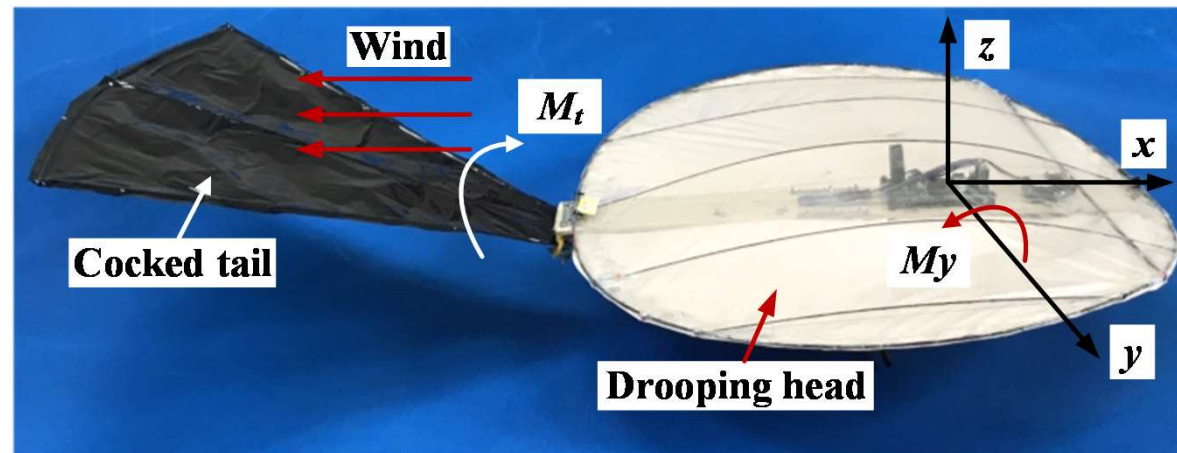
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# Basic theory of pitching motion

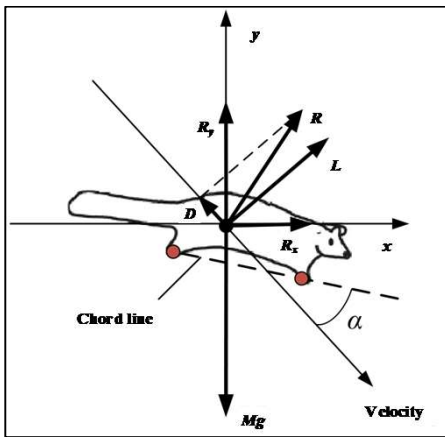
- Aerodynamic force produced by wind
- Additional moment of tail's rotation



Tail swings for pitch posture adjustment

- Aerodynamic forces and multi-rigid-body dynamics works together to adjust pitching motion

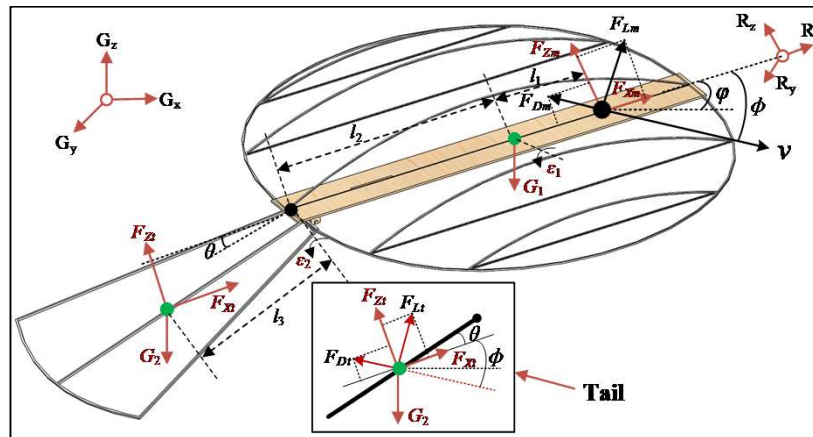
# Mathematical model



Aerodynamic model

$$L = \frac{\rho C_L S v^2}{2}$$

$$D = \frac{\rho C_D S v^2}{2}$$



Simplified gliding mechanical model

$$\begin{cases} F_{Ab} = [F_{Lm} & F_{Dm}]^T = \frac{\rho S_1 v^2}{2} [C_{L1} & C_{D1}]^T \\ F_{At} = [F_{Lt} & F_{Dt}]^T = \frac{\rho S_2 v^2}{2} [C_{L2} & C_{D2}]^T \end{cases}$$

$$M_1 + J_t \varepsilon_2 = 0$$

The pitching moment at the center of the robot's mass could be got:

$$M = M_1 + F_{Zm} l_1 - F_{Zt} (l_3 \cos \theta + l_2) + F_{Xt} l_3 \sin \theta$$

## Control model

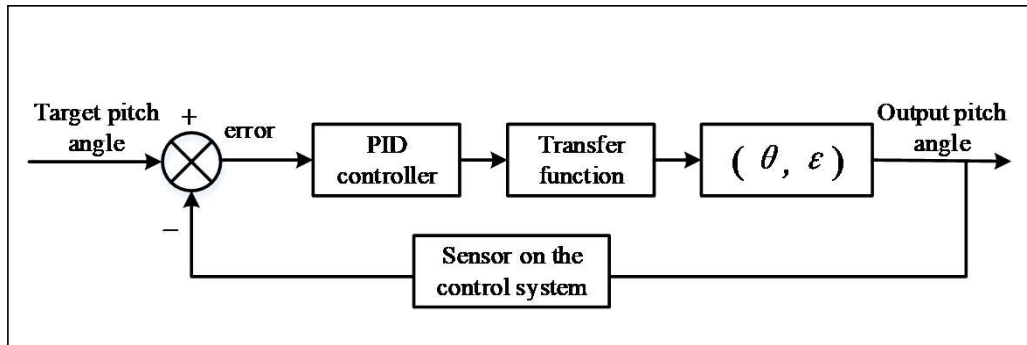
- When the pitching motion is in a stable state, M and the pitching torque generated by the aerodynamic torque should be 0

$$\boxed{F_{Zm}l_1 - F_{Zt}(l_3 \cos \theta + l_2) + F_{xt}l_3 \sin \theta = 0} \longrightarrow \boxed{\theta = \arcsin\left(\frac{F_{Zt}l_2 - F_{Zm}l_1}{l_3 \|L_t\|_2}\right) + \gamma}$$

- When the pitch torque of main body and the pitch angular acceleration  $\varepsilon_1$  is generated, Tail would swing to avoid instability.
- Tail's angular acceleration  $\varepsilon_2$ :
- $\theta$  is the tail's target position,  $\varepsilon_2$  is the process to get target  $\theta$ .

$$\boxed{|\varepsilon_2| \geq \frac{J_m |\varepsilon_1|}{J_t}}$$

# Control model



Gliding pitch control strategy of BSR

$$\theta = \arcsin \left( \frac{F_{Zt} l_2 - F_{Zm} l_1}{l_3 \| L_t \|_2} \right) + \gamma$$

$$|\varepsilon_2| \geq \frac{J_m |\varepsilon_1|}{J_t}$$

Tail's angle and angular acceleration

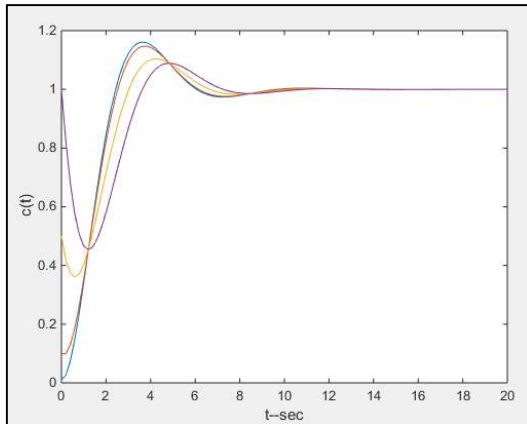
$$\frac{\varphi(s)}{\theta(s)} = \frac{Ks^2 + 1}{T^2 s^2 + 2\xi Ts}$$

Simplified open-loop transfer function of the system.

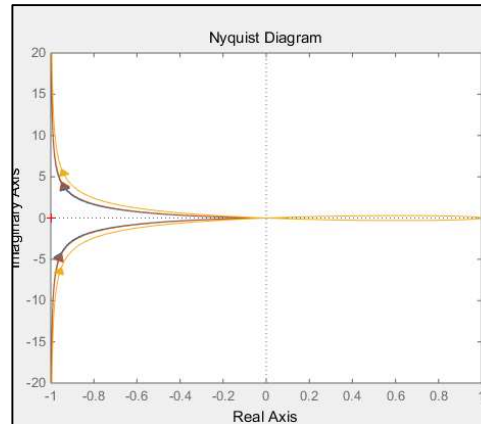
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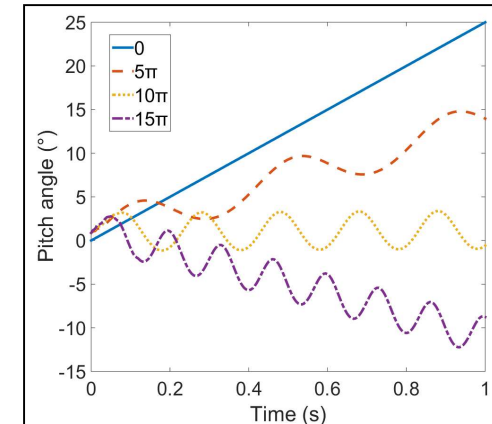
# Simulation



Unit step function response



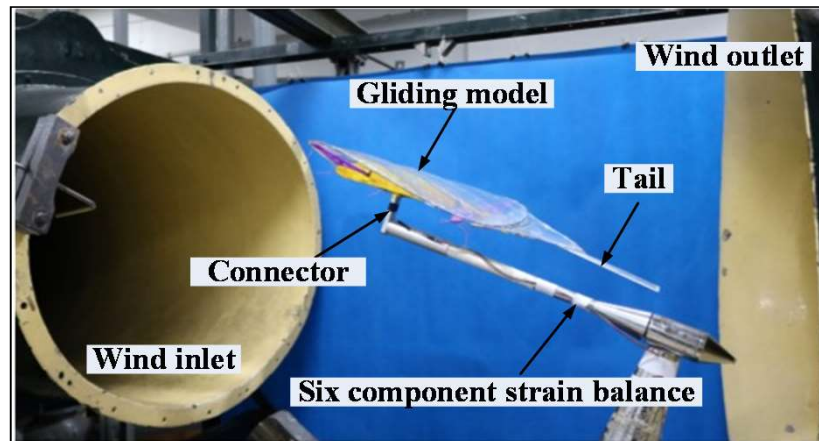
Nyquist diagram



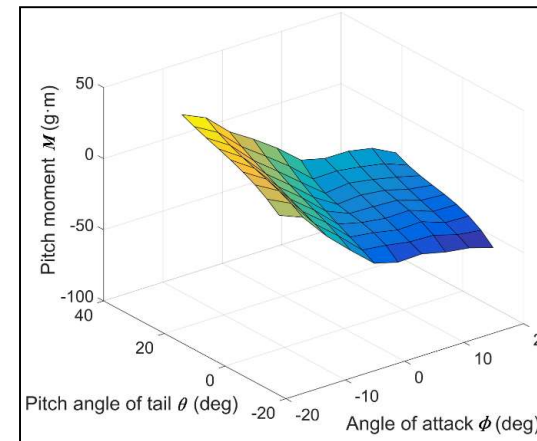
Main body's pitch angle with different angular frequency of tail

- The control system is stable.
- The additional torque generated by the tail's angular acceleration can adjust the pitch motion of the main body well.

# Experiments



Wind tunnel experimental platform

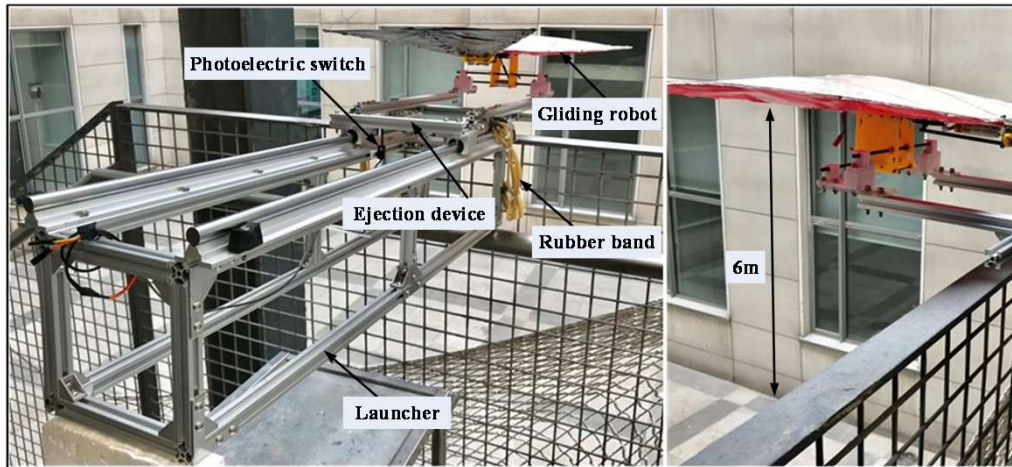


The pitch moments  
variation space of  $(\phi, \theta)$

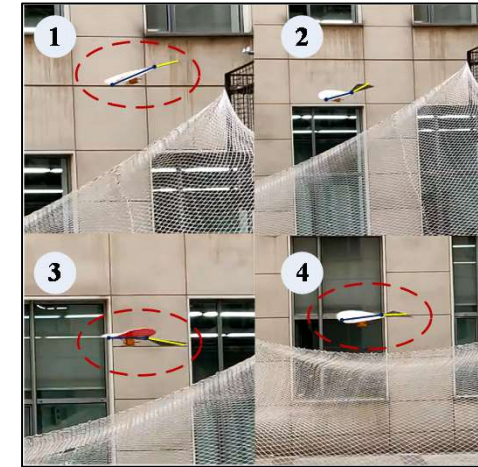
- The pitching moment exhibits a linear trend with  $\theta$  and its variation changes obviously.
- Different pitch angle ( $\theta$ ) of tail leads to different aerodynamic moment of the robot at the same wind speed.



# Experiments



The gliding experience platform



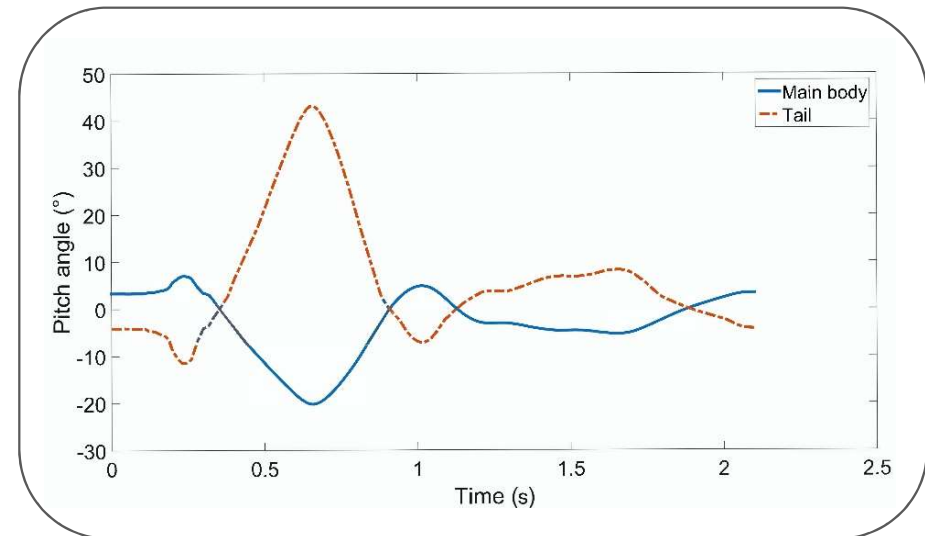
The tail swings up and down for pitch posture adjustment

- The platform consists of the launcher and ejection device.
- The tail swings up and down for pitch posture adjustment in the gliding process.

# Experiments



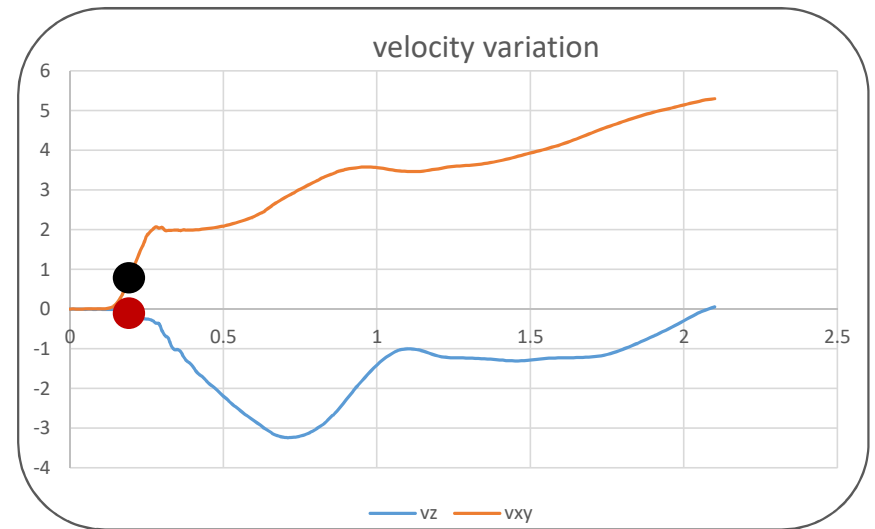
Field experiment



Tail and main body's pitch angle variation

The pitch angle variation of main body with tail's adjustment !

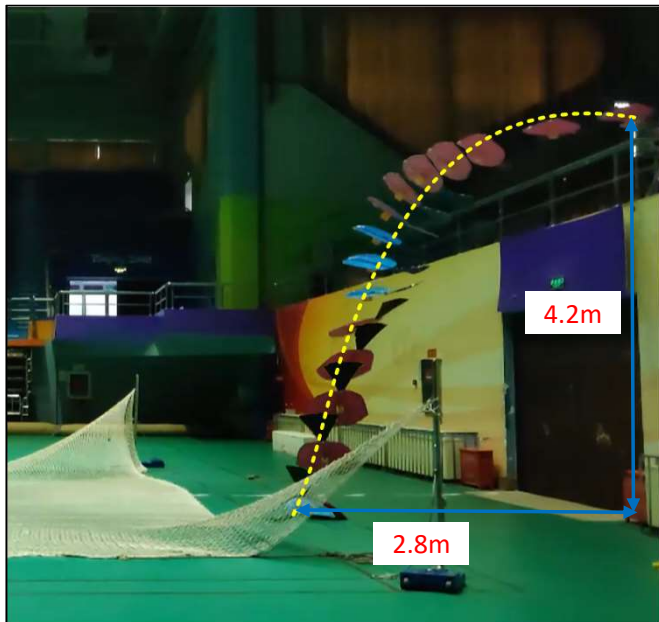
# Experiments



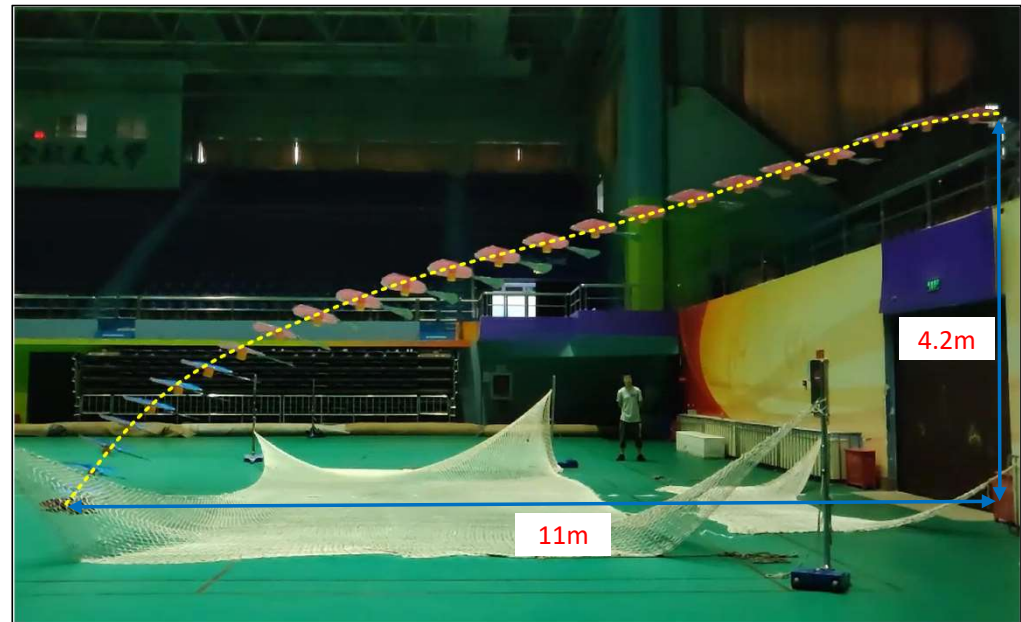
The velocity variation of main body with tail's motion !

# Experiments

- Comparison of experimental results



Experiment without tail's adjustment



Experiment with tail's adjustment

- The robot glides more steadily and farther with tail's adjustment!

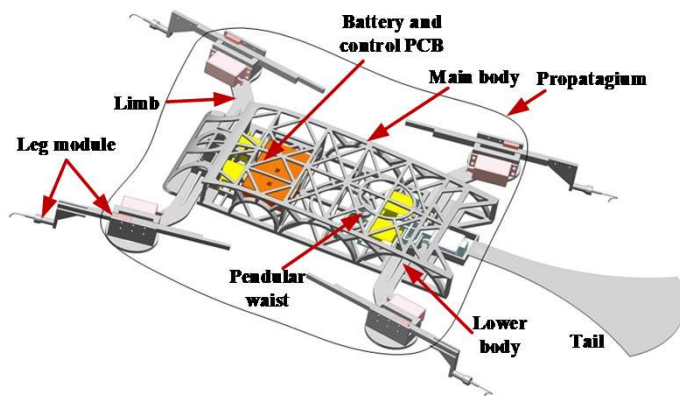
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# Conclusions and prospects

- The aerodynamic and additional torque generated by tail's pitch angle and angular acceleration can adjust the pitching stability of the robot during the stable glide stage with a control strategy.
- Yaw control model will be explored in the future.
- The combination and switching mode of climbing and gliding motion is a research direction.



**Thank you very much!**

Thanks for Listening