

I plan to model my hopper after the spider cricket, well-known for its horizontal jumping ability, reaching up to 50 times its body length. The spider cricket usually lands on its feet by extending its numerous limbs to cover a wider area, enhancing stability mid-air. During the summer, these crickets are all over my house, occupying various spaces such as my room, bathroom, and basement, and they are capable of surprising jumps from unexpected places. The reason both my sister and I were so scared of them was due to their ability to leap so far and fast that it was difficult to perceive their movement, leading us to joke it was teleportation. For my project, I aim to recreate the most famous characteristic of the spider cricket's jump—the remarkable horizontal distance it can cover—possibly successfully recreating what scared me so much as a child.