



TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN. WARFIGHTER FOCUSED.

Army Robotics

07 October 2009

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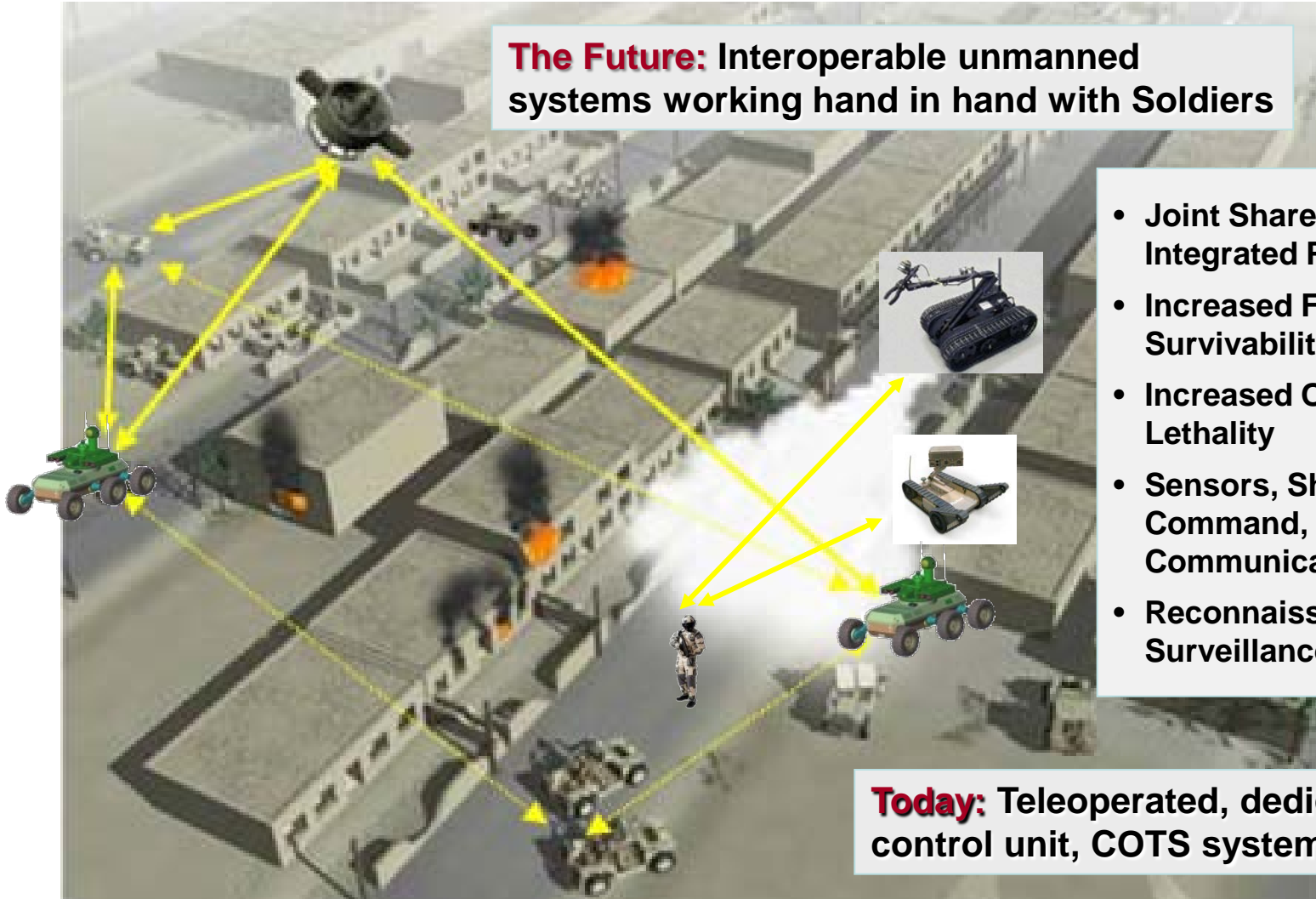
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The Future: Interoperable unmanned systems working hand in hand with Soldiers

- Joint Shared Integrated Picture
- Increased Force Survivability
- Increased Operational Lethality
- Sensors, Shooters, Command, Control & Communications
- Reconnaissance / Surveillance

Today: Teleoperated, dedicated control unit, COTS systems

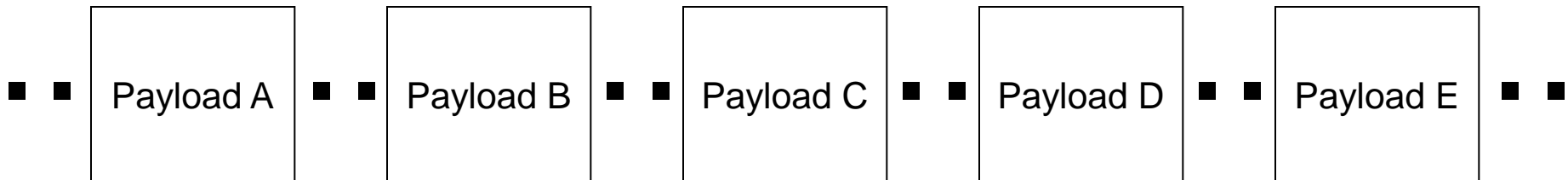


Common payload interface across platforms by mission or class

Family of unmanned ground systems



Payload Interface Standard Architecture



Mission equipment payloads

Maneuver



- IED Defeat Systems
- Disarm / Disrupt
- Reconnaissance
- Investigation
- Explosive Sniffer

Maneuver Support

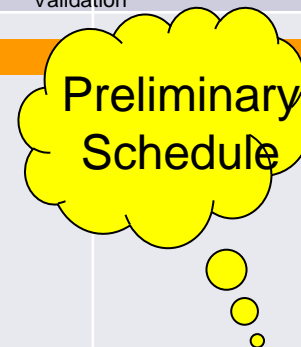


- Area/Route Clearance
- Mine Neutralization
- Counter IED
- CBRNE

Sustainment



- Common Robotic Kit
- EOD
- Convoy
- Log/Resupply



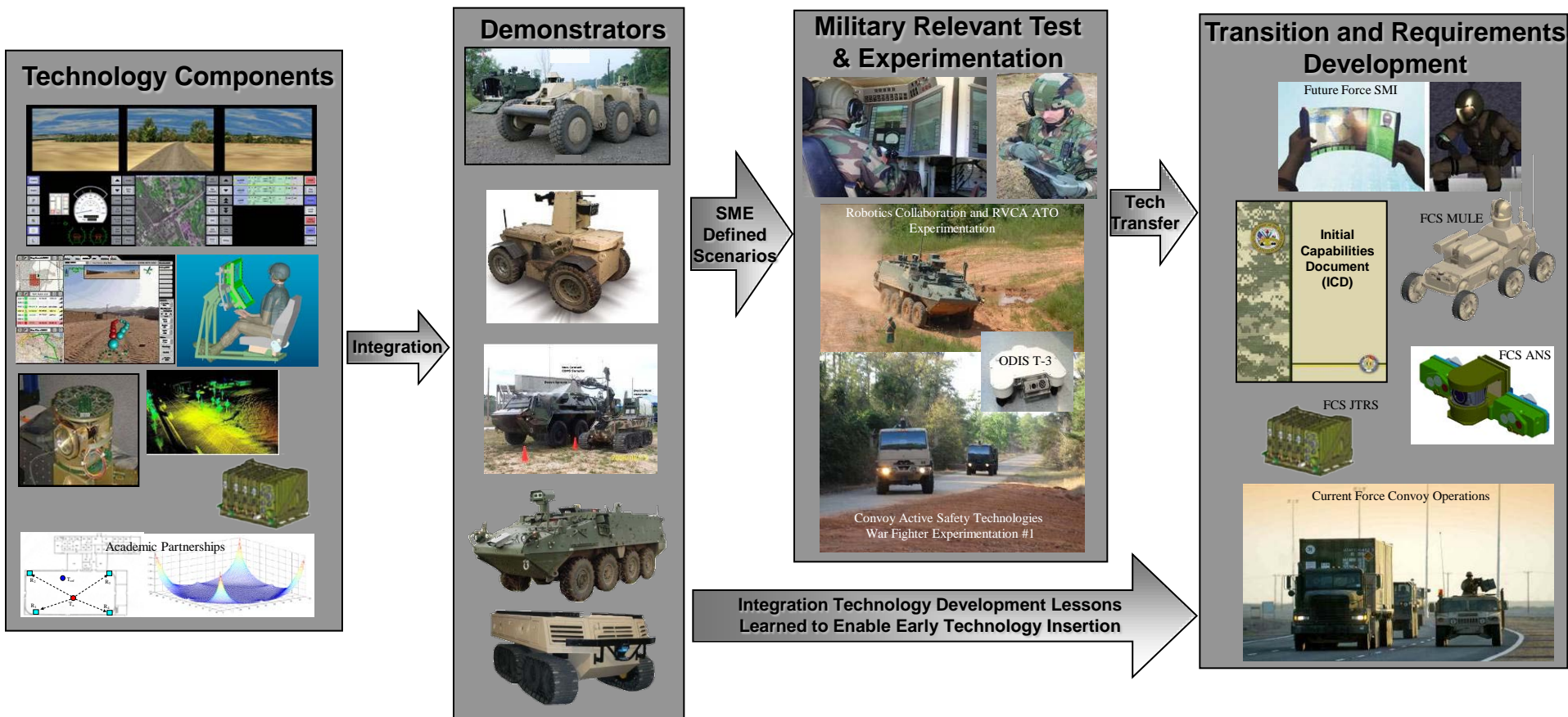
- S&T Support to the RS-JPO
- Develops and Fosters external Relationships
- Matures technology for Insertion into ATO programs
- Robotics Outreach
- RS JPO Collaboration Cell Lead
- Support to IGS Capability Cells
- Robotics Academic Programs (Including Curriculum Development)



Government Partnerships	Industry Partnerships	Academia Partnerships	Community Outreach
	<p> ABB BAE Delphi Ford General Dynamics General Motors Google iRobot JADI John Deere Lockheed Martin Oshkosh Polaris QinetiQ Quantum Signal Raytheon SoarTechnology Think-A-Move Toyota </p>	<p> Auburn University Carnegie Mellon Lawrence Technological University Massachusetts Institute of Technology Michigan State University Michigan Technological University Oakland University University of Detroit Mercy University of Michigan – Ann Arbor University of Michigan - Dearborn US Military Academy at West Point Virginia Tech Wayne State University </p>	<p> IGVC FIRST Robofest Robotics, Engineering and Technology Days TARDEC Robotics Quarterlies </p>

Mission

Integrate, Explore, and Develop Robotics, Network and Control Components with a Focus on Customer Driven Requirements to Provide Full System Solutions to the War Fighter



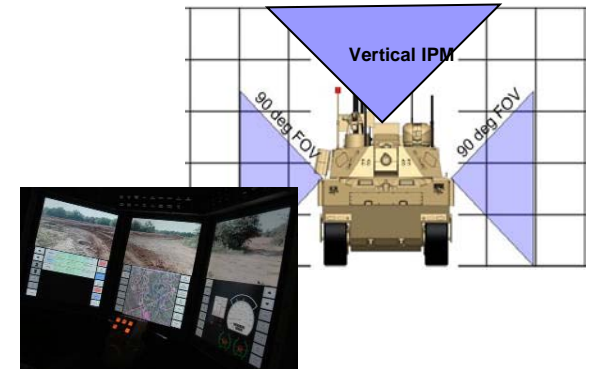
Autonomous Behaviors



Warfighter Support



360° Situational Awareness



UGV Safe Operations



Architecture Development & Demonstration



Human – Robot Interface





**Near Autonomous Unmanned Systems
ATO Capstone**



**Robotic Vehicle Control Architecture
In collaboration with PM-FCS (BCT)**



Convoy Active Safety Technologies (CAST)



Robotics Collaboration ATO Capstone

Under Vehicle Inspections



Remote Mine Detection System



Construction Engineering Robotic Kit



Robotic Decontamination



Autonomous Detection Vehicle

- Autonomous route investigation and hazard marking
- Fundamentally an appliqué kit for Husky
- Funding exists for developmental phase (JIEDDO to NVL)
- Leverage previous work by GDRS for NVL



Convoy Logistics

- Kit-based system for TWV automated leader-follower
- User assessment at Fort Hood in the September – October timeframe
- Funding exists for developmental phase
 - Potential to leverage JCTD for cycle development



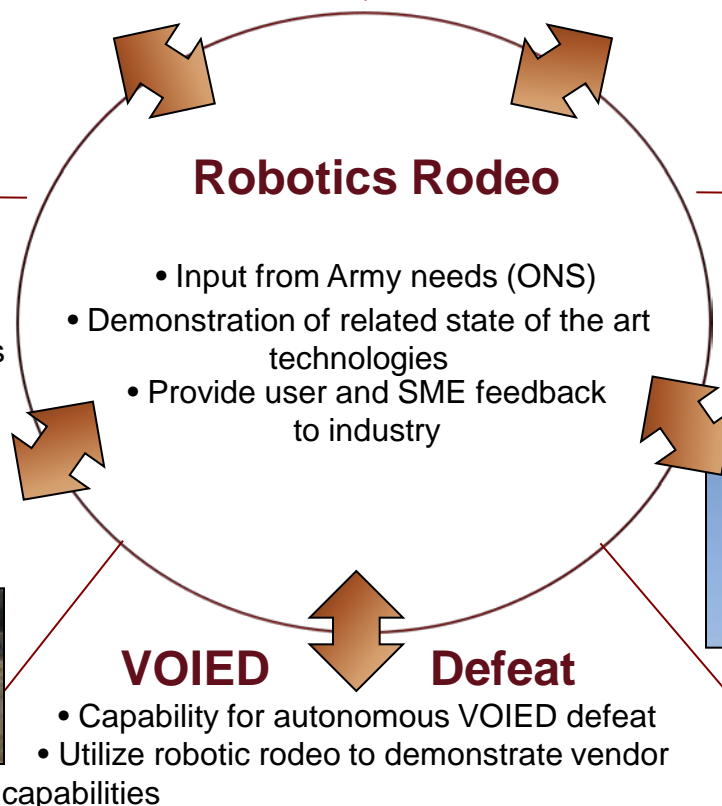
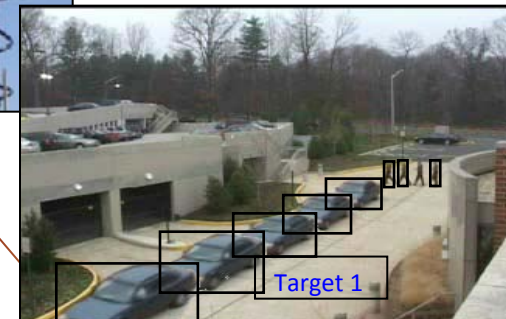
Manned/Unmanned Teaming (MUT)

- Large armed robotic platform assumes role as a member of squad / formation
- Leverage existing ARDEC, AMREC, CERDEC technologies and Fort Hood rodeo for target acquisition and engagement capability



Persistent Stare

- Small robot with autonomous navigation to perform recon and surveillance
- Utilize robotic rodeo to demonstrate vendor capabilities





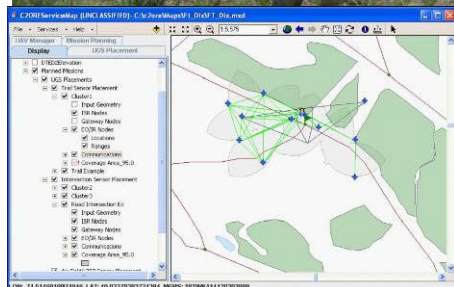
Robotics CTA – Technology for Near Autonomous Systems



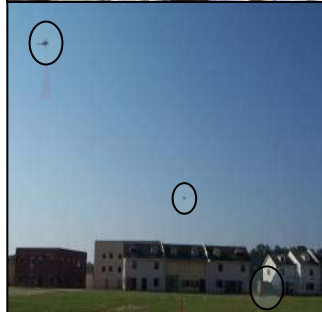
Robotic Platform for Engineer Missions



MAST CTA - Small “Creatures for Urban Terrain”



Command & Control of Robotic Entities



Air-Ground Collaboration



Following, Awareness, SafeOps, and Tracking through IGS (fastIGS)

PAST

- Workload reduction
- Embedded crewstation



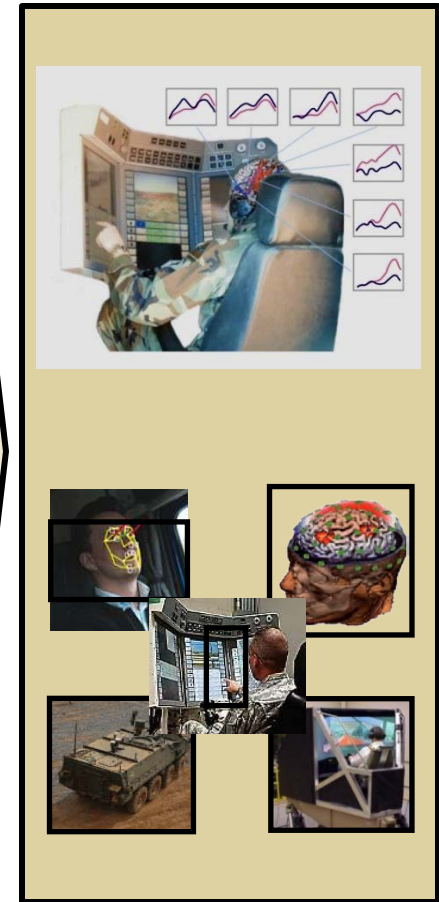
PRESENT

- Robotic control (mounted, dismounted)
- Driving aids (Soldier assist)
- Scalable, portable Interface



FUTURE

- Soldier monitoring and task assist
- Intelligent agents
- 360 degree situational awareness



Purpose: Incorporate actual hardware both fielded and prototypes using simulation, stimulation and emulation to test concepts and validate capabilities.

- Hardware In The Loop includes:
 - Vehicle Warfighter Machine Interface
 - Dismounted Controllers
 - FBCB2 and other ABCS
 - SoSCOE
 - Autonomous Control Algorithms

Partners:

- Robotic Systems Joint Project Office (RS-JPO)
- Cross Command Collaboration Effort (3CE)
- Natick Soldier Center – Infantry Warrior Simulation (IWARS)
- Night Vision Labs – Comprehensive Munitions and Sensor Server (CMS2)
- Modeling Architecture for Technology, Research and EXperimentation (MATREX)





Large

Robotics CTA



Man-packable



Micro

**Micro-Autonomous Science
& Technology CTA**

Consortium Members

- General Dynamics Robotic Systems (Lead Industrial Partner)
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Applied Systems Intelligence
- Jet Propulsion Laboratory
- Alion Science & Technology
- BAE Systems
- Sarnoff Corporation
- SRI International
- Florida A&M University
- University of Maryland
- PercepTek
- Robotic Research
- Signal Systems Corp
- Howard University
- NC A&T University
- University of Pennsylvania
- Skeyes Unlimited
- Johns Hopkins University

Objectives

Make the research investments that support the Army's robotic system development goals:

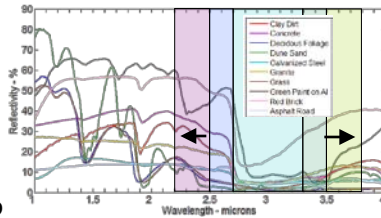
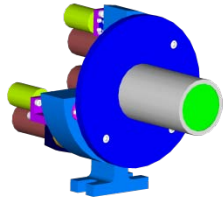
- *Develop perception technologies that allow robotic vehicles to sense and understand their environment;*
- *Develop intelligent control technologies and architectures enabling robotic systems to autonomously plan, execute, and monitor operational tasks undertaken in complex, tactical environments;*
- *Develop human-machine interfaces that allow soldiers to effectively task robotic systems and minimize operator workload.*

Technical Areas

- Advanced Perception
- Intelligent Control & Behavior Development
- Human / Machine Interfaces



Exploration of novel sensor modes



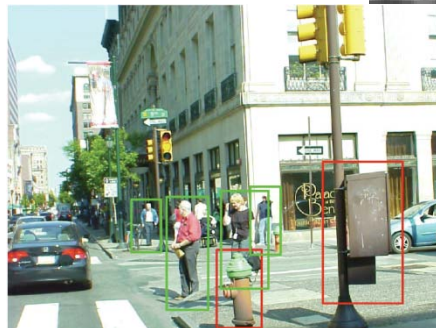
Novel LADAR
for small systems **Spectral LADAR**

...to expand applicability and
enhance available information

Moving Agent Understanding



Different postures



In clutter & complexity

Goal is fusion of multiple
techniques to improve
accuracy and robustness

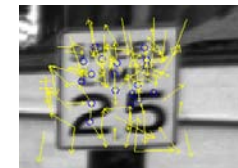
**Improved environmental understanding,
especially for dynamic environments**

- Application of learning techniques

Terrain Classification



*Topologic
maps*

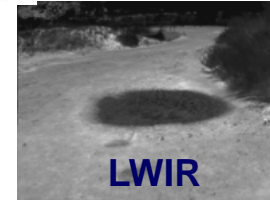


Road Features

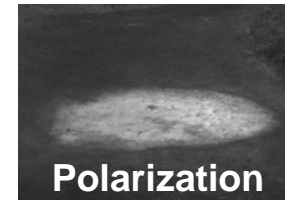
Sensing Mud



RGB



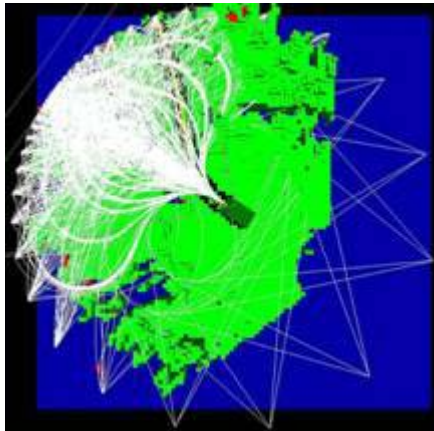
LWIR



Polarization

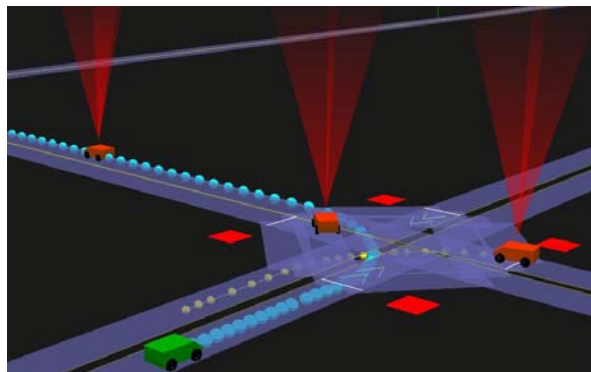
Examining methods for real-time planning and execution of complex missions

Integration of multiple planners for real-time operation



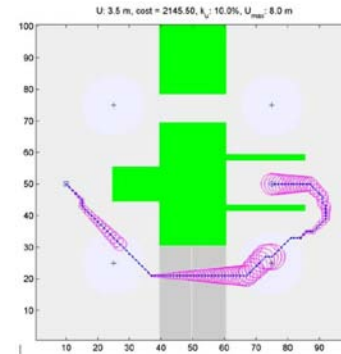
Off-road

High Mobility

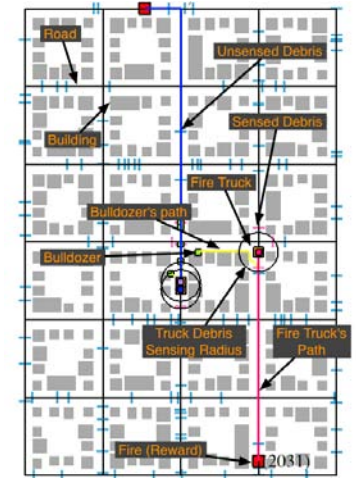


On-road

Planning with uncertainty



...and time constraints



Full implementation of multi-layer planning




Dynamic
Replanning
Example

Scalable Human Machine Interfaces



... to reduce soldier cognitive workload

...and Multi-Modal Input



Unmanned Systems become another soldier in the unit:

highly capable with scalable attributes to meet mission requirements; requiring reduced communication and minimal soldier interaction; flexible, robust, and reliable; able to adapt fully to new & different tactical and environmental conditions; following commanders intent; effectively operating in mixed environments; able to “learn from experience; maneuvering unfettered in complex terrain; able to “live” in a world designed for humans, to grasp small objects, to open doors, or to carry the wounded.

- ***What missions will they conduct ?***
- ***What level of capability?***
- ***What degree of autonomy will they possess?***
- ***How will they work with soldiers ?***
- ***Or function in general society?***
- ***How will they be used in Urban operations?***
- ***In complex terrain?***
- ***How will they navigate in GPS denied environments ?***



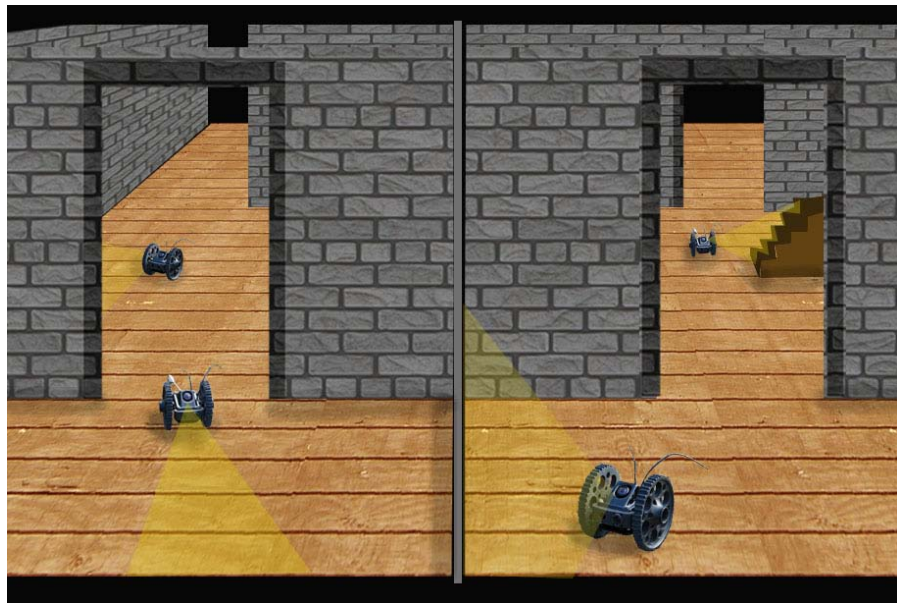
Perceive & understand a dynamic & unknown environment



- Sensors
- Information Fusion
- Perception Algorithms
- All environments
- All scales
- Relevant world model

- Sensing
 - Greater resolution & range, lower cost
 - Increased fields of view; focus of attention
 - Scale
 - All weather/environments
- Terrain/Object Understanding
 - Broader vocabulary
 - Recognition of cues/saliency of observations
 - Robust & adaptive
 - Reasoning
 - Fusion
- Understanding activity
 - Human activity/intent recognition
 - Saliency of observations/ context & cues
 - Learning
- World model
 - Managed & validated
 - Long-term & short-term memory
 - Collaborative or distributed
 - Common ground (HRI)
 - Navigation (Intelligence, mobility & manipulation)

Plan and execute military tasks & missions



- Robust
- Adaptive
- Learns from Experience
- Transparent

Some potential research topics

- Learn & Adapt
 - Deductive reasoning
 - Inference
 - Generalization/Rules of engagement
 - Uncertainty of future conditions
 - Probabilistic reasoning
 - Spatial & temporal reasoning
- Self-awareness/introspection
 - Transparency
 - Providing non-verbal cues
 - Human-robot collaboration
 - Fault detection
- World model
 - Common ground
 - Mixed initiative
- Scale
 - Adapting to resource limitations
- Tactically intelligent behavior
- Collaboration between homogeneous & heterogeneous systems

Seamless integration of robots into military & civilian activity



- Effective Control of multiple systems
- Human-robot Teaming
- Seamless integration of robots & society

Some potential research topics

- **Shared situational awareness**
 - Aware of cultural and behavioral norms.
 - Comprehend commander's intent & act upon it
 - Understand the intent of surrounding humans for consideration in planning
 - Possess common spatial & temporal frames of reference – a “common ground”
- **Trust & Confidence**
 - Transparency of action
 - Cues to activity
 - Tolerance to failure
- **Intuitive Communication**
 - Language – unconstrained dialogue
 - Non-verbal cues, gestures, context, & behavior
- **Operating within society**
 - Adaptable to varying social cues & context
- **Span of control**

- ***Unmanned Systems will have a major impact on future military operations***
- ***The technology is still in its nascent stages – the Army has made a firm commitment to its development***
- ***The first systems, albeit teleoperated are already impacting current operations***
- ***The first systems with significant autonomy will be fielded over the next 5 – 10 years***
- ***How the Army employs the technology will, as much as the technology itself, determine its future impact***



