



Improving the Mobility of a 3D Printed Robot for Search and Rescue Operations

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Office of Standards
Science and Technology Directorate
U.S. Department of Homeland Security



Intelligent Systems Division
Engineering Laboratory
National Institute of Standards and Technology

1. Holton-Arms
2. Governor Thomas Johnson
3. Wootton High School
4. National Institute of Standards and Technology

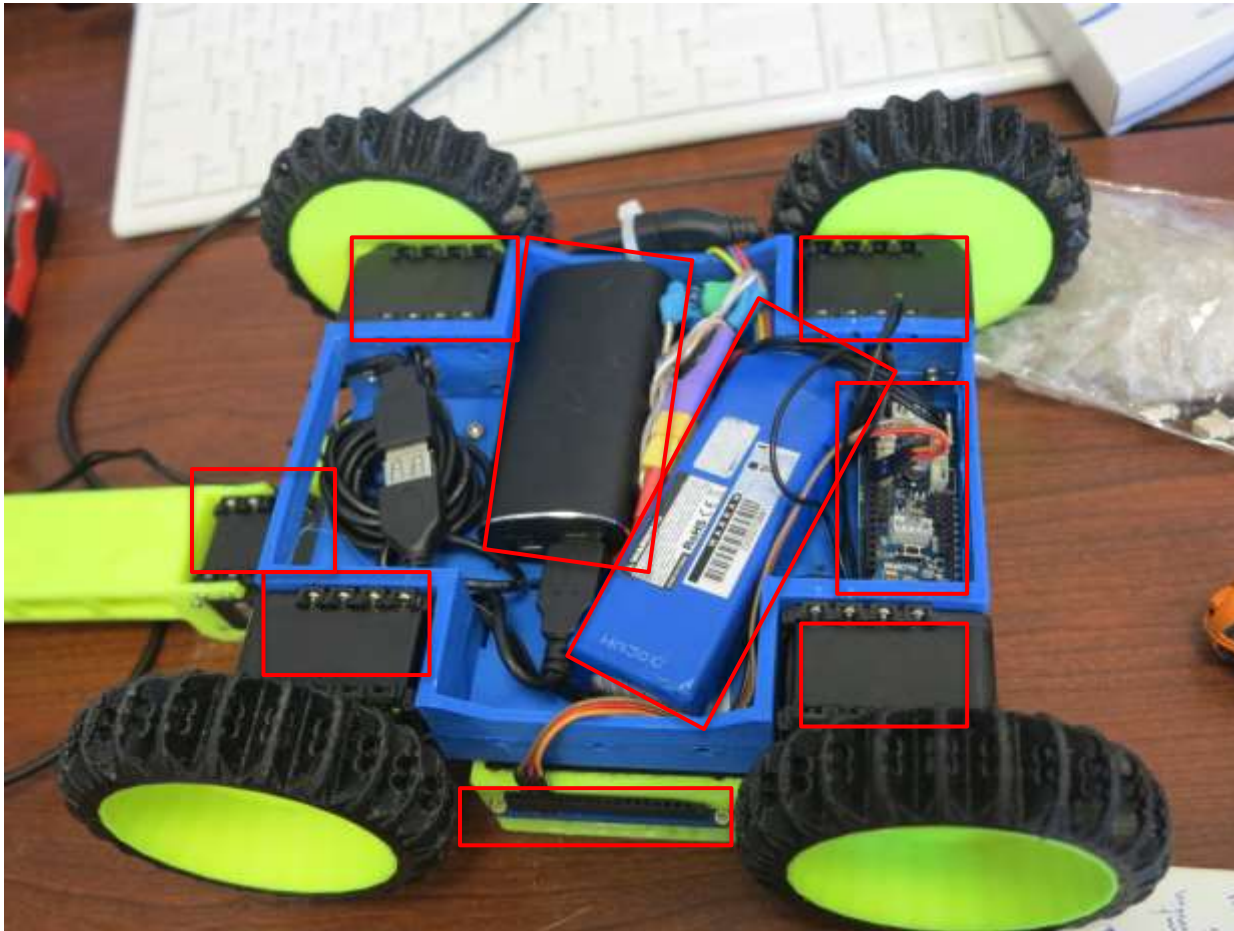
Emu Mini 2

Originally part of the Open Academic Robot Kit



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Parts:

Raspberry pi 2B

Open CM 9.04
Board

Lipo Battery

External Battery
Pack

Dynamixel Servos

Wireless LAN
Adaptor

Bluetooth Adaptor



Standard Test Methods

Test methods measure performance of robot capabilities



Continuous
Ramps



Gravel



Crossing Ramps



Hurdles

Collecting Data Procedure

Test methods measure performance of robot capabilities

NIST
National Institute of Standards and Technology
U.S. Department of Commerce

Standard Test Methods For Response Robots
ASTM International Committee on Homeland Security Applications:
Operational Equipment Robots (E54.08.01)

STATUS: ASTM E2826

Version: 2016.05-AJD

MOBILITY: Confined Area Terrains: Continuous Ramps

DATE: _____ ROBOT MAKE: _____
FACILITY: _____ ROBOT MODEL: _____
LOCATION: _____ ROBOT CONFIG: _____
EVENT/SPONSOR: _____ OPERATOR/ORG: _____

APPARATUS SETTINGS

ALTER PATH

0.6M (2FT) WIDE
 1.2M (4FT) WIDE
 2.4M (8FT) WIDE

APPARATUS INCLINE

ENVIRONMENT

LIGHTED (> 100 LUX)
 DARK (< 0.1 LUX)
TEMP (DEG. CELSIUS) _____
HUMIDITY (%) _____

FAULT CONDITIONS
(SEE REPAIR/VENT FORMS)

ROBOT MALFUNCTION REQUIRING REPAIR
 ROBOT STUCK, MOVED MANUALLY TO START
 ANY SYSTEM RESET AT OPERATOR STATION

TRIAL SUMMARY

TRIAL NUMBER _____

STATISTICAL SIGNIFICANCE

80% / 85% ALLOWS
0 FAILURES IN 10 REPS
1 FAILURE IN 10 REPS
2 FAILURES IN 10 REPS

REPETITIONS
(NOTE TIME WHEN FAULT OR ADMIN PAUSE IS DECLARED)

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 21 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 22 _____
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<input type="checkbox"/> 10 _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 20 _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 30 _____

START TIME (MINUTES) _____ : _____

END TIME (MINUTES) _____ : _____

COMPLETE REPETITIONS _____ **X** **METERS PER REPETITION** _____ **=** **TOTAL DISTANCE (METERS)** _____ **÷** **ELAPSED TIME (MINUTES)** _____ **=** **METERS PER MINUTE** _____

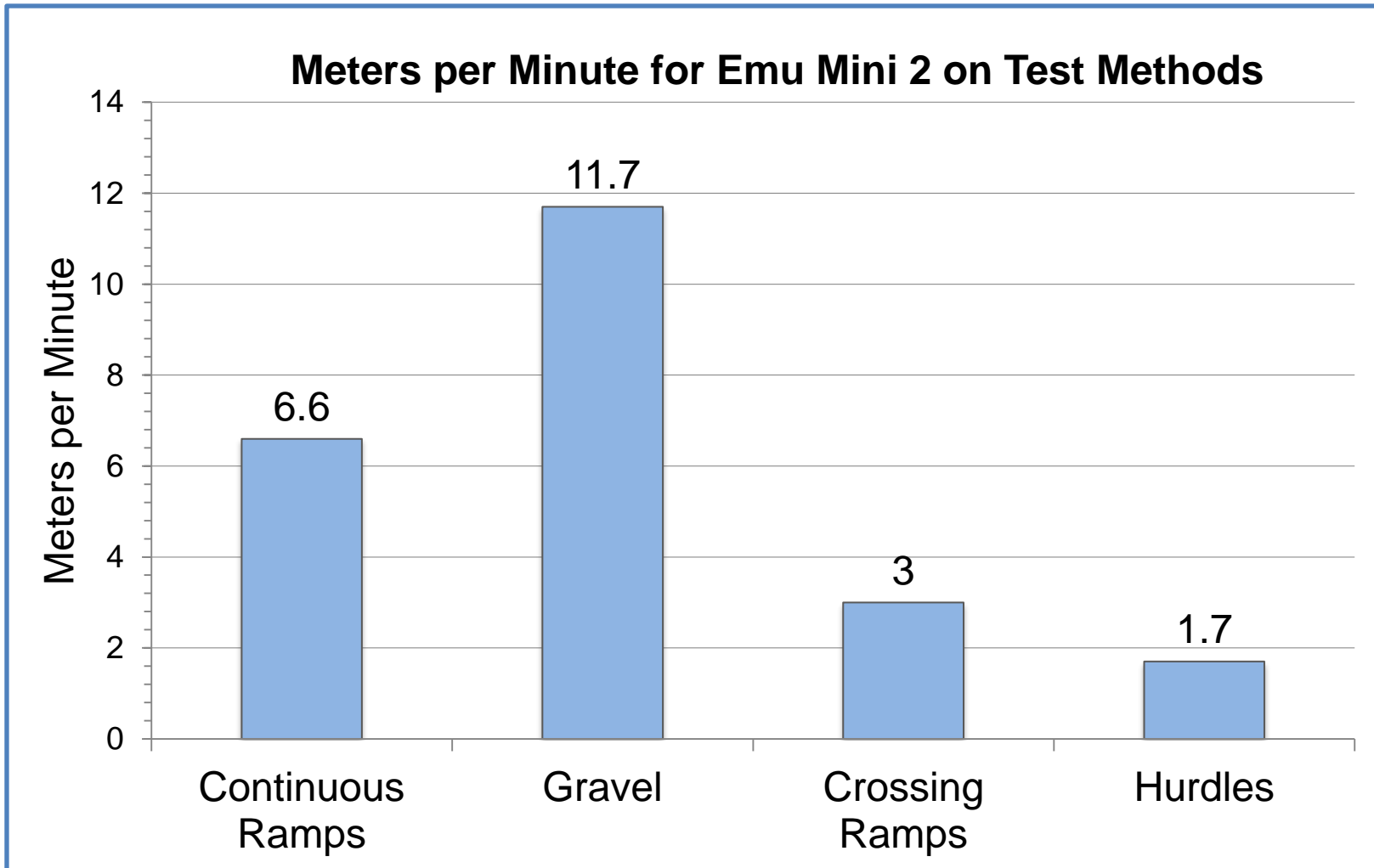
LEGEND: Field Maintenance Fault, Incapacitated Robot Reset, OCU reset, Admin Pause, Successful Rep.

NOTES: _____

VIDEO FILE NAMING CONVENTION _____ Page 27 TEST ADMINISTRATOR NAME/ORGANIZATION _____
ROBOTMAKE-MODEL-SERIAL-CONFIG-MOB-TER-CON-DSB-LIT-10M-TM-NIST-YYYYMMDD-ADMIN(3) _____ / NIST

Initial Data Collection

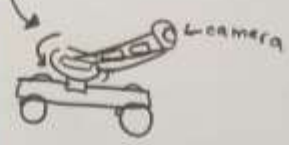
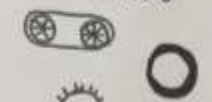

Collected by running tests on the test methods



Modifications

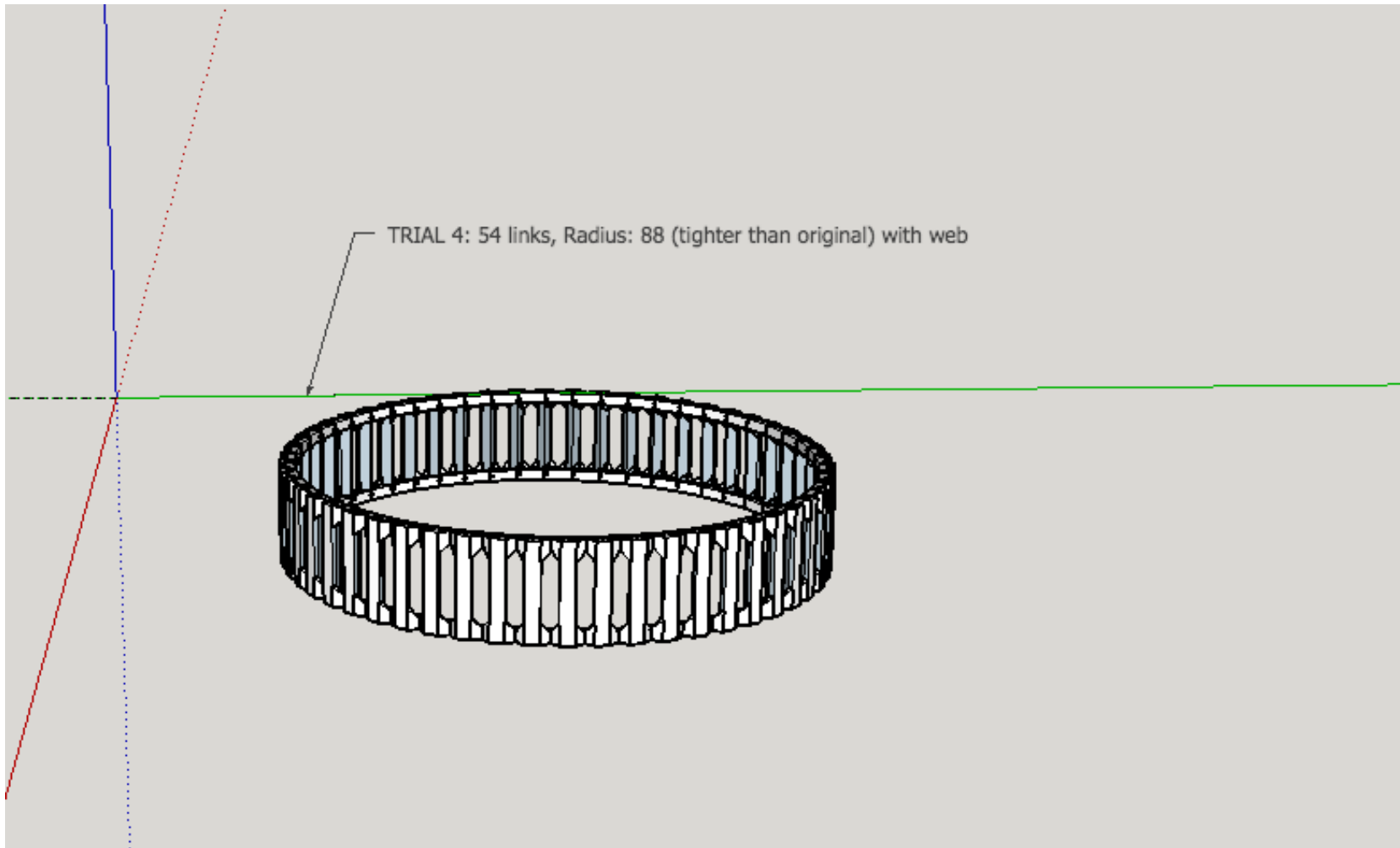
Improving on the Emu Mini 2's original design

FLAT GROUND TESTING	
PROS	CONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- wheel servos move reliably- pretty long distance bluetooth / video streaming- good camera quality- accurate turns	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Servos are loud- camera and arm servos not reliable- limited view- limited camera movement- wheel friction

IMPROVEMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- New Tracks- Rotating arm- Different camera  <p>← camera</p>	<p>TRACKS</p>  <p>← change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Size of wheels- Most variables→ good for data collection
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Base modification<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ more space for wires→ better organization	 <p>wireless</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- put on gears- allows for full rotation

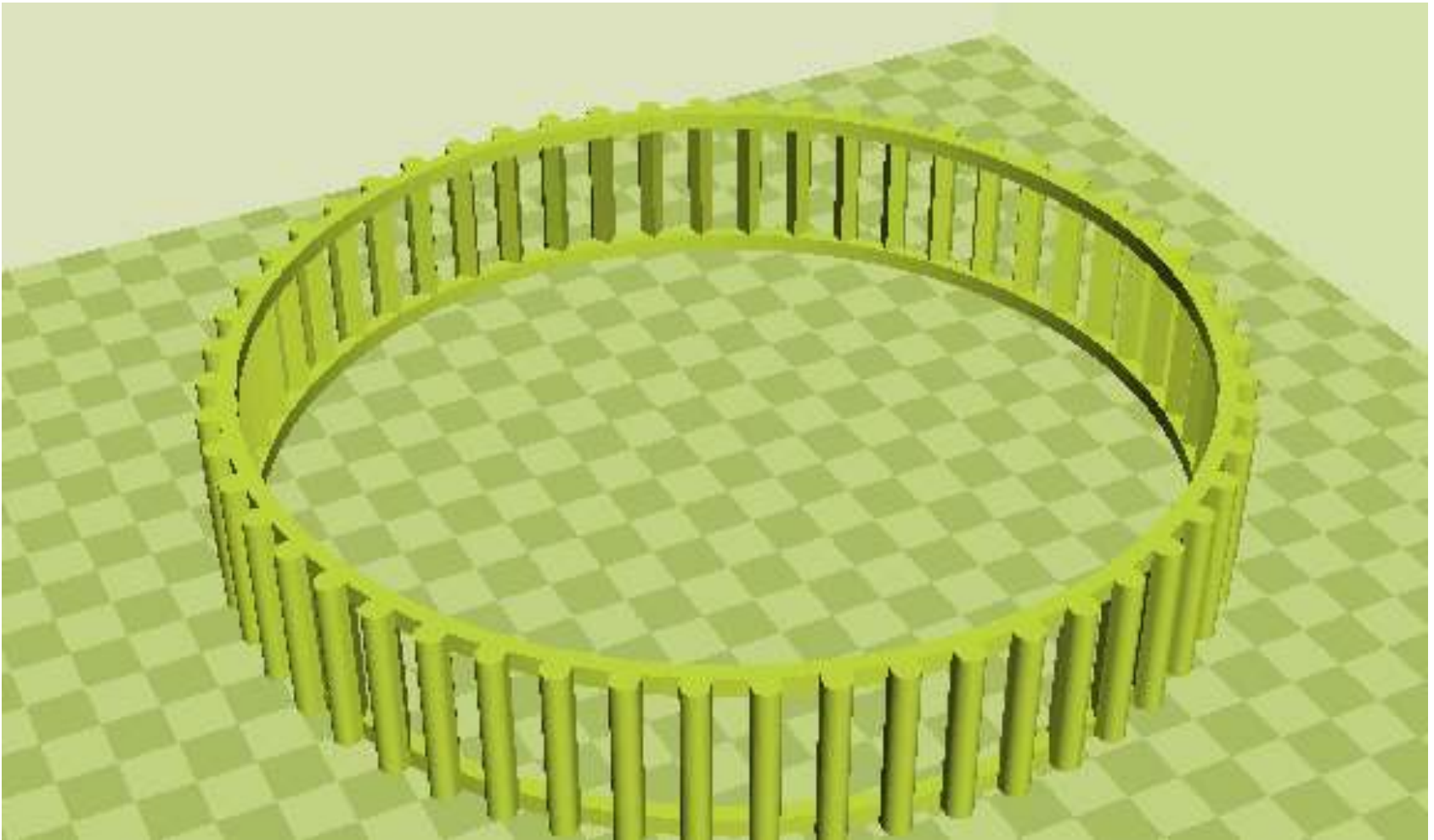
Re-Designs

Created new designs using SketchUp



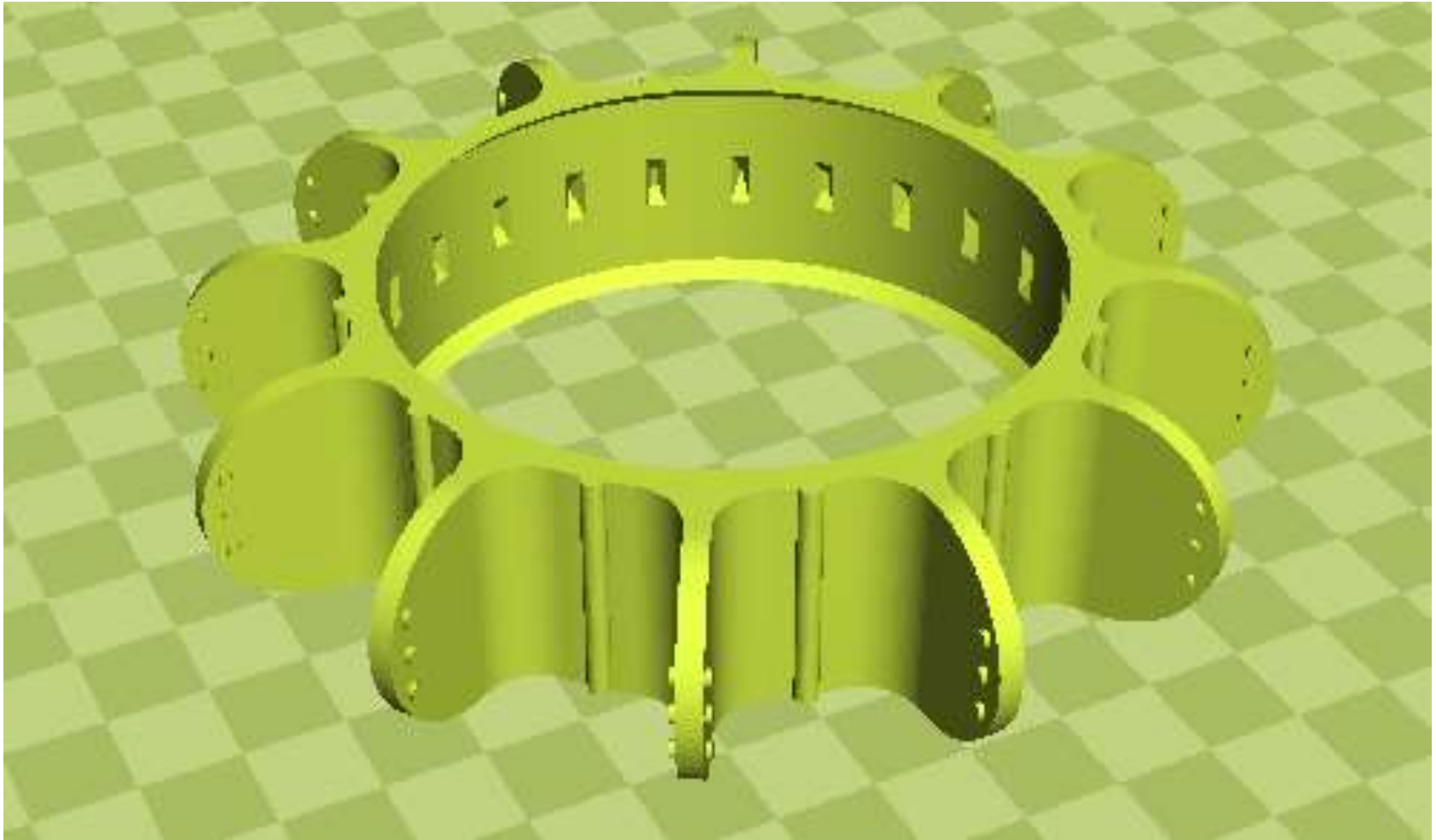
New Design: Tracks

New designs created from modifications



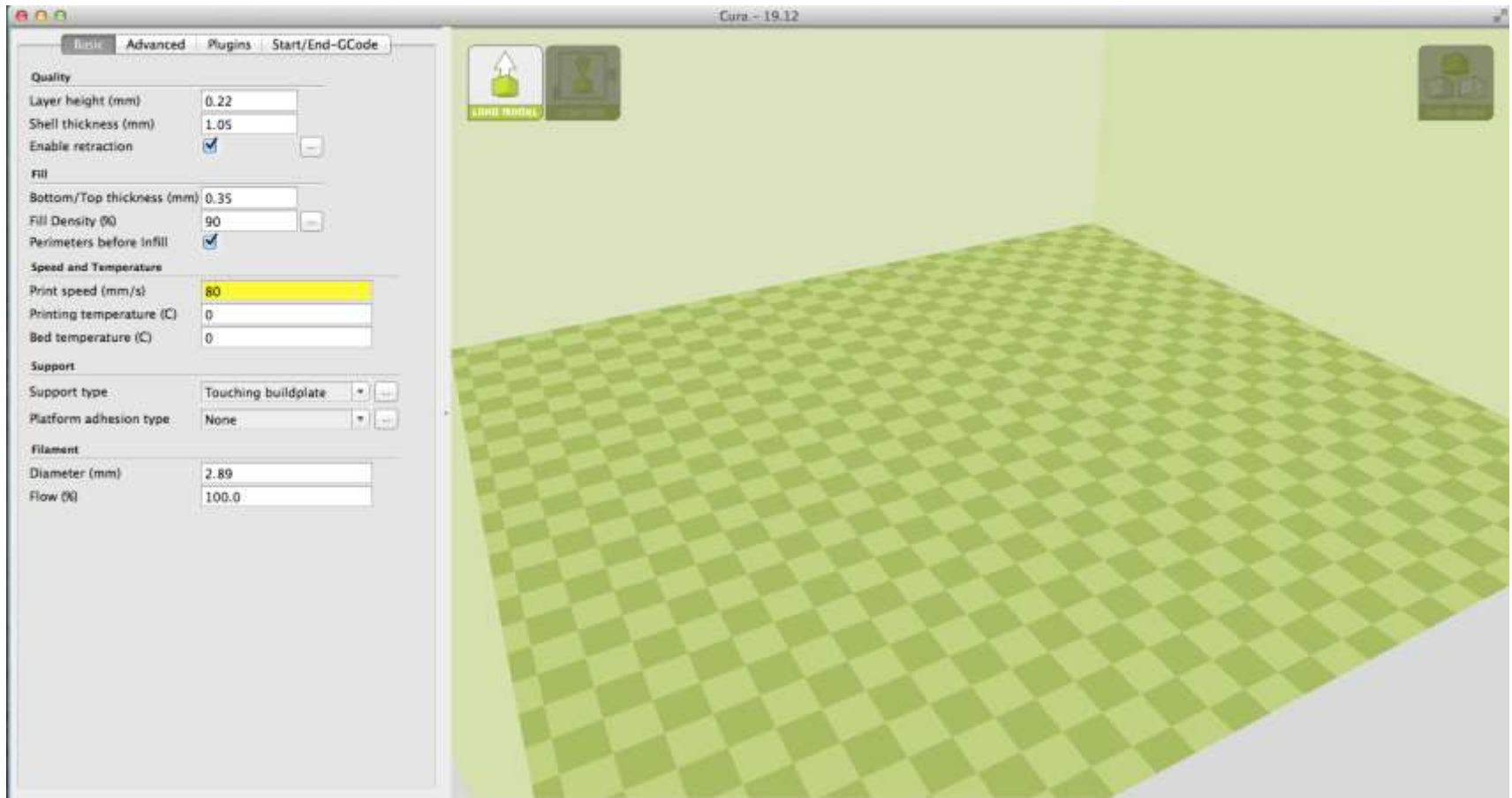
New Design: Wheels

New designs created from modifications



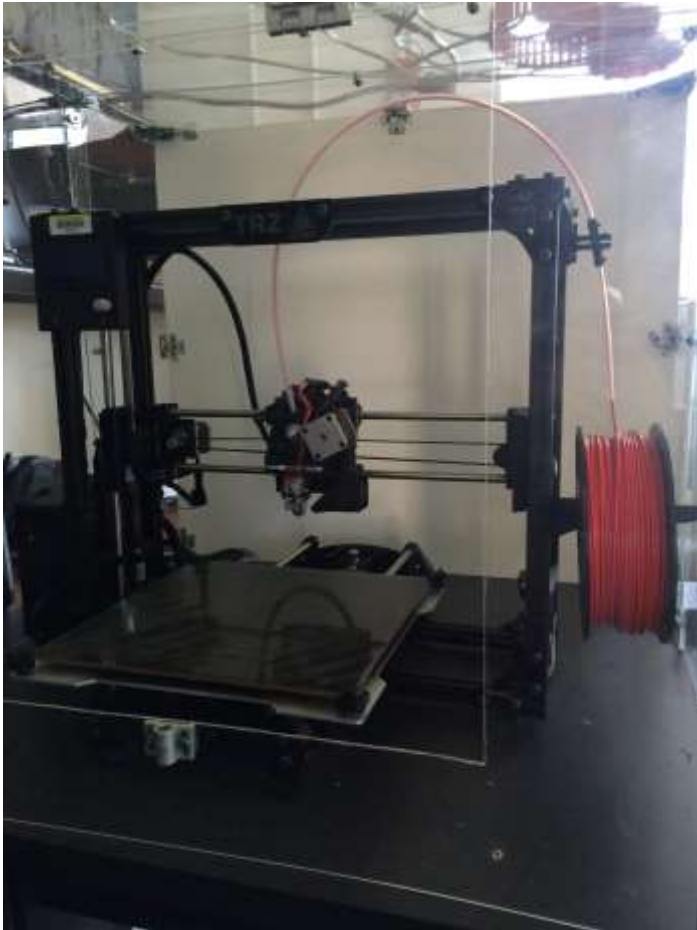
3D Printing: Setup

Prepared the new designs using cura



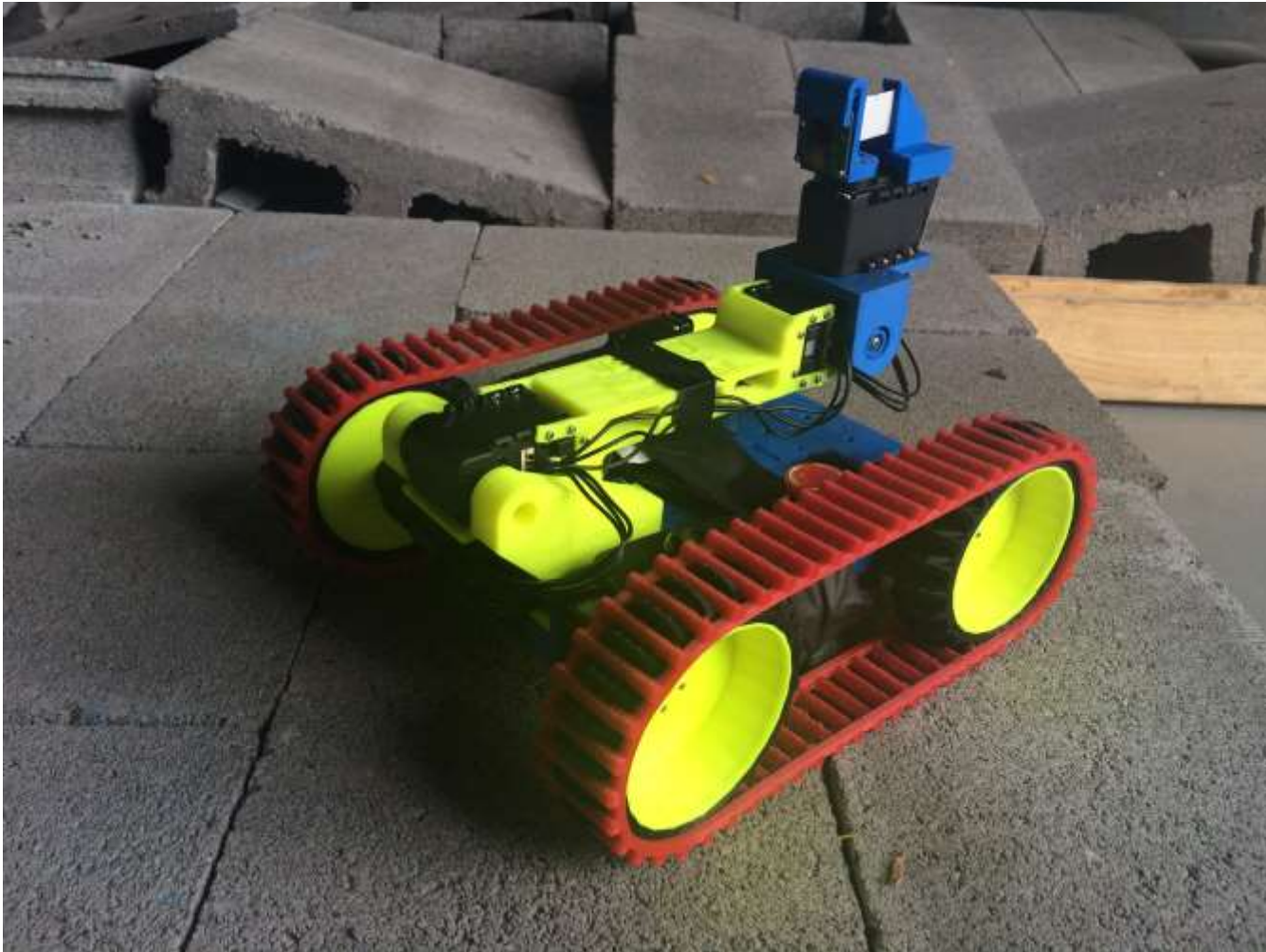
3D Printing: Moving to the Printer

Printed the new designs using a Lulzbot Taz 4 printer



Tracks

Tracks designed to increase surface contact and traction



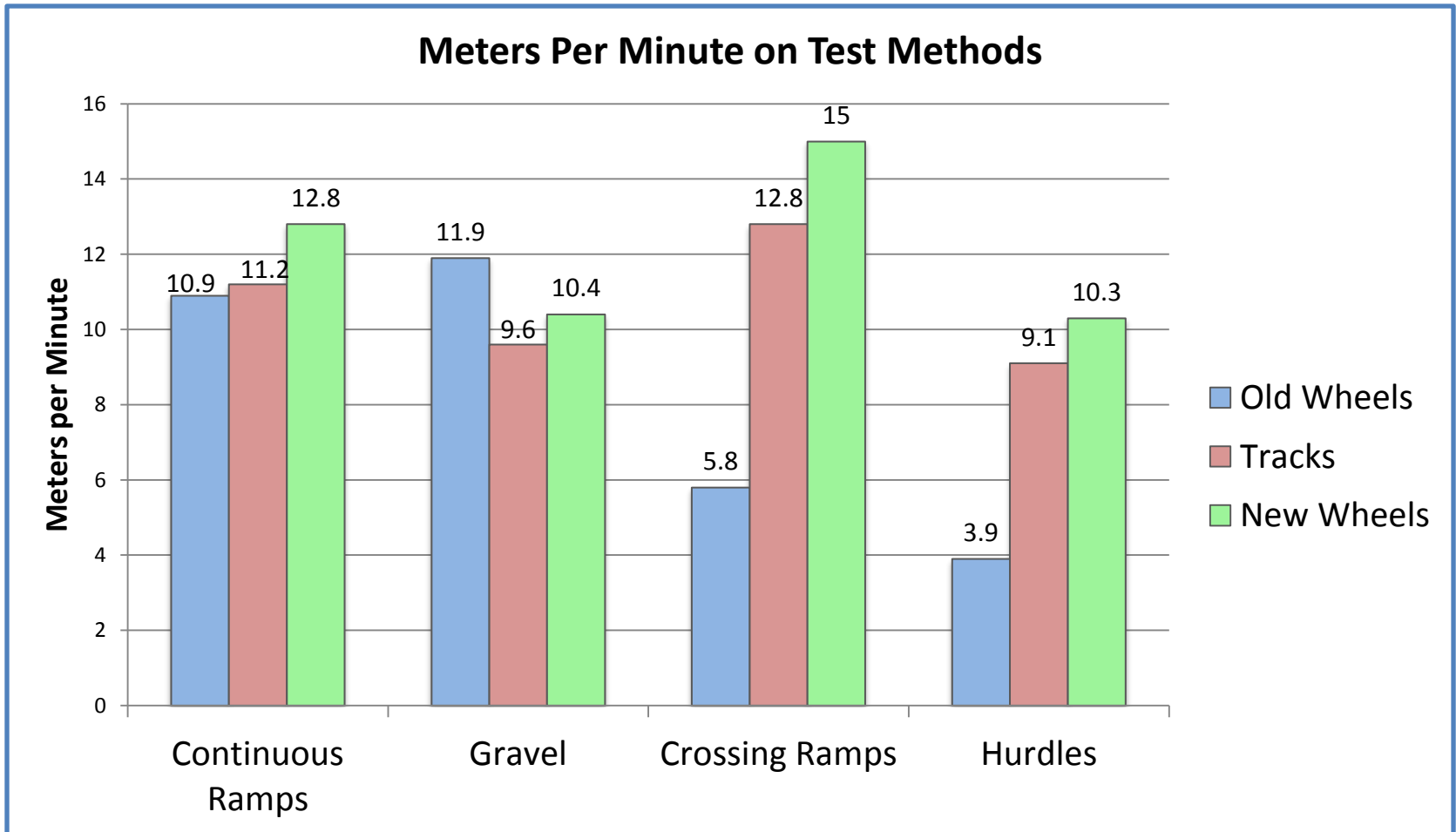
Wheels

Wheels designed to climb over hurdles and increase tread depth



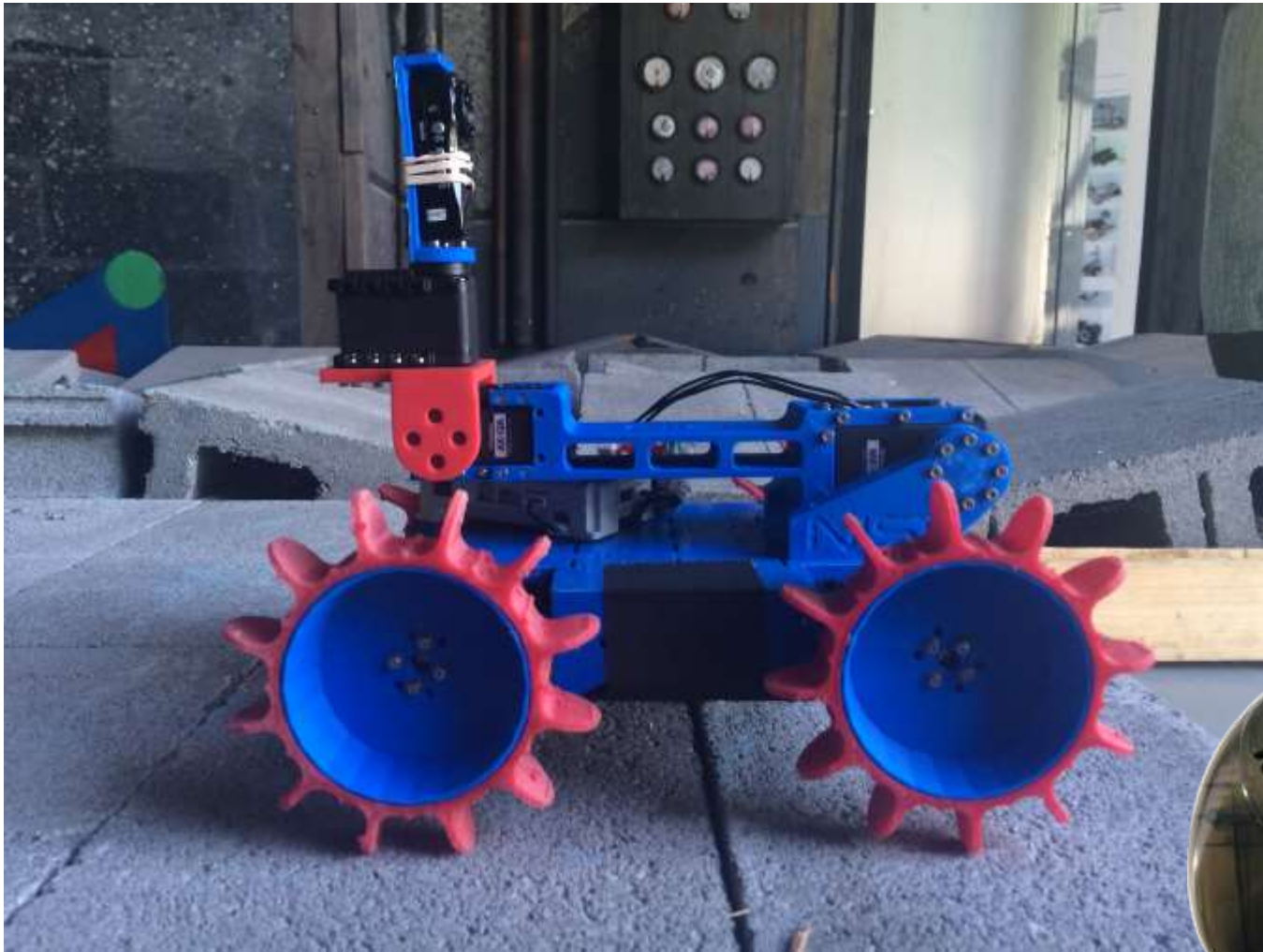
Secondary Data Collection

Collected by running tests with the tracks and new wheels



Emu Mini 2: Meet Lauren

Second Emu Mini 2 (Robot 2) created for secondary testing



Differences Between Robots

Differences that may account for performance differences

Robot 1 (Ralph)

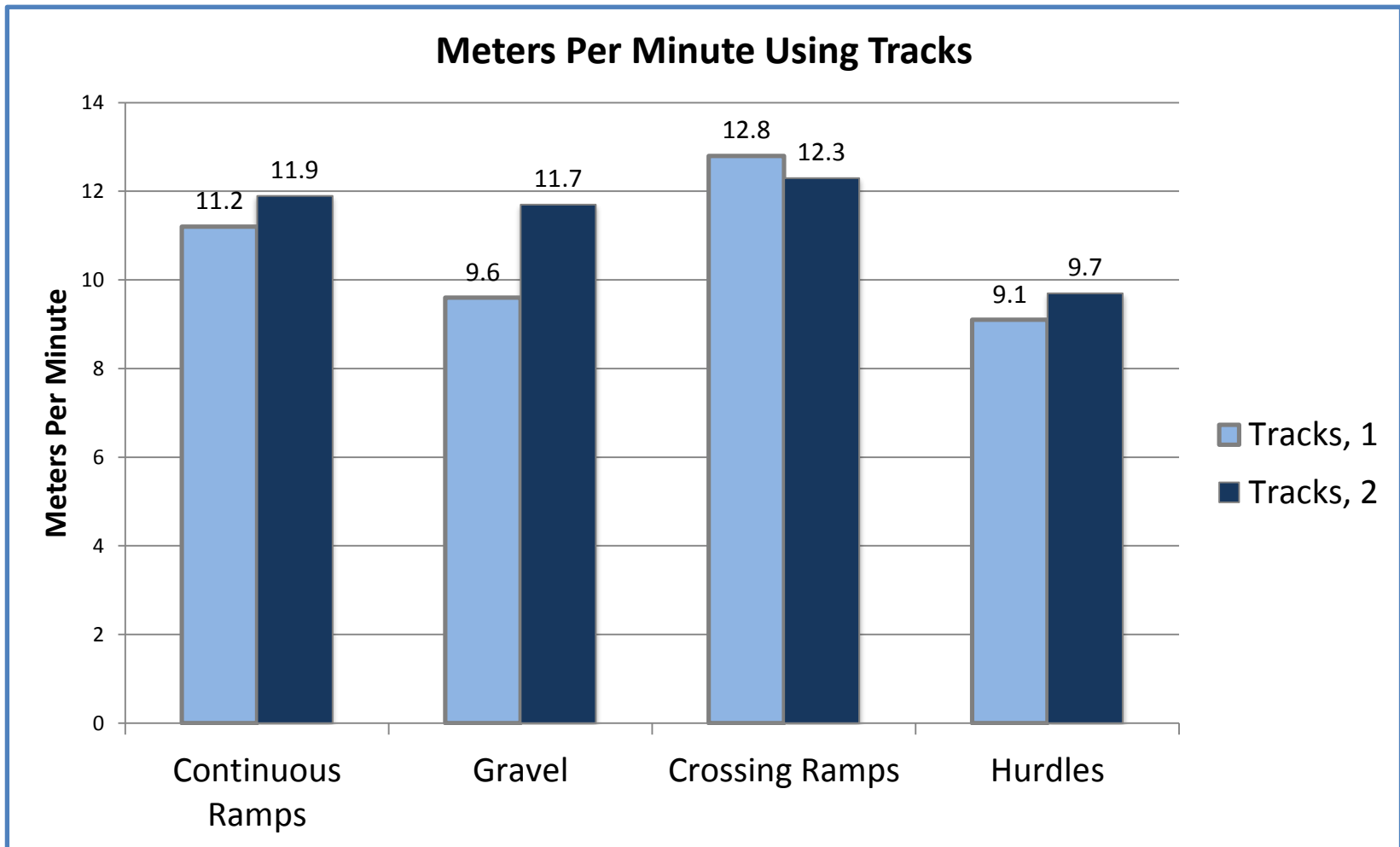
- Controlled by Raspberry Pi
- Raspberry Pi camera
- Needs backup battery
- Arm controlled by AX-12 servo
- Original arm, rest, shoulder design
- Average Speed: 15.7 m/min

Robot 2 (Lauren)

- Controlled by CM-530 board
- Mofek wifi camera
- Does not need backup battery
- Arm controlled by MX-64 servo
- Re-designed arm, rest, shoulder design
- Average Speed: 16.5 m/min

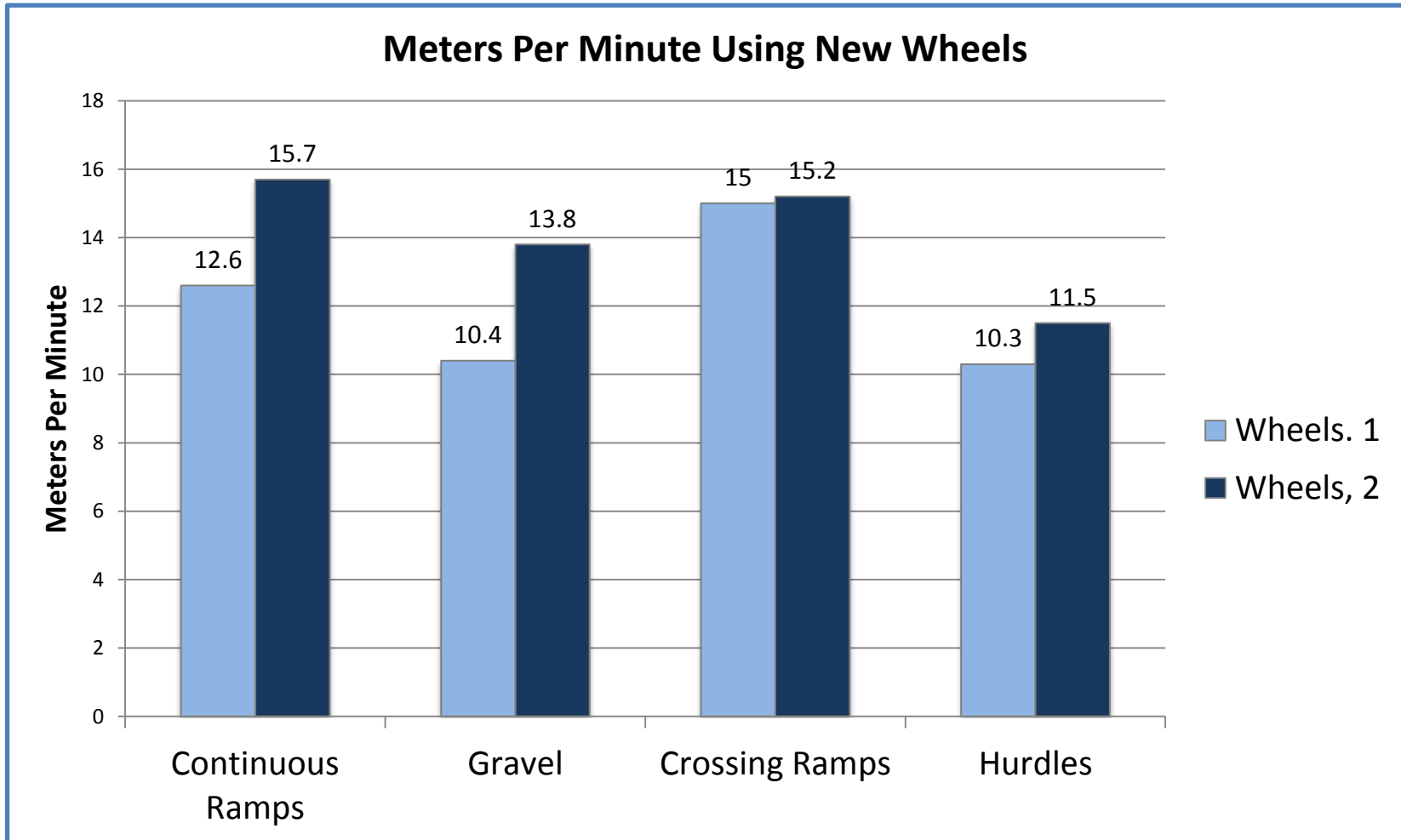
Track Data Collection

Collected by running tests with both Emu Mini 2 robots



Wheel Data Collection

Collected by running tests with both Emu Mini 2 robots



Conclusion

Discussion and next possible steps

- Best mobility combination: New Wheels + Robot 2 (Lauren)
- Second robot was better because of lower weight
- Actual tests are run via remote operations
- Next step: Run tests remotely and compare results between the different cameras and different robots