

# Introduction To Cognitive Robots

**Prof. Brian Williams**

**Rm 33-418**

**Wednesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2004**

# Outline

- **Examples of Robots as Explorers**
- Course Objectives
- Student Introductions and Goals
- Introduction to Model-based Programming

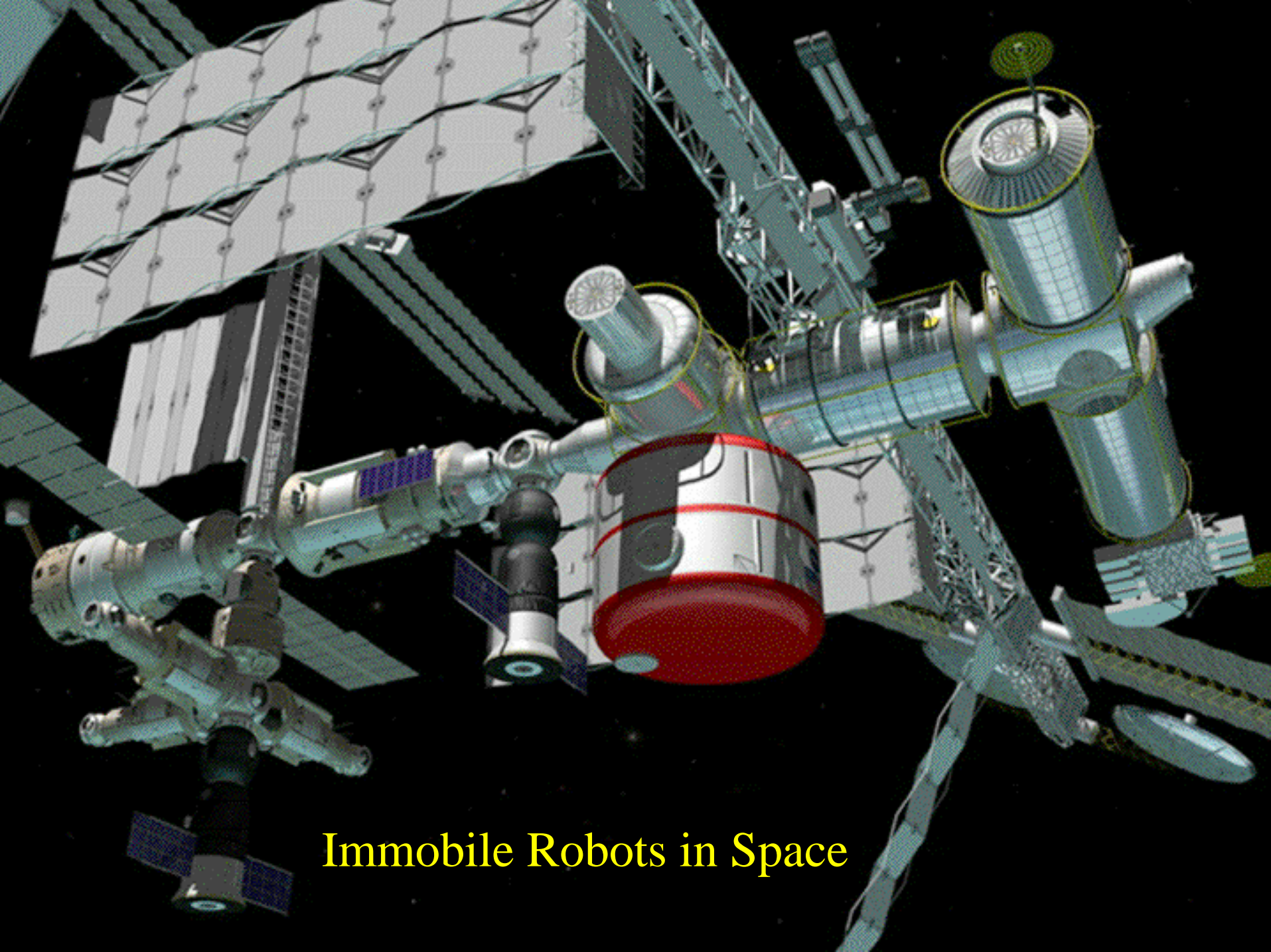
# Course Objective 1

To understand the main types of cognitive robots and their driving requirements:

- “Immobile” Robots and Engineering Operations
  - Robust space probes, ubiquitous computing
- Robots That Navigate
  - Hallway robots, Field robots, Underwater explorers, stunt air vehicles
- Cooperating Robots
  - Cooperative Space/Air/Land/Underwater vehicles, distributed traffic networks, smart dust.

Accomplished by:

➤ Case studies, invited lectures & final projects.



**Immobile Robots in Space**

# Portable Satellite Assistant

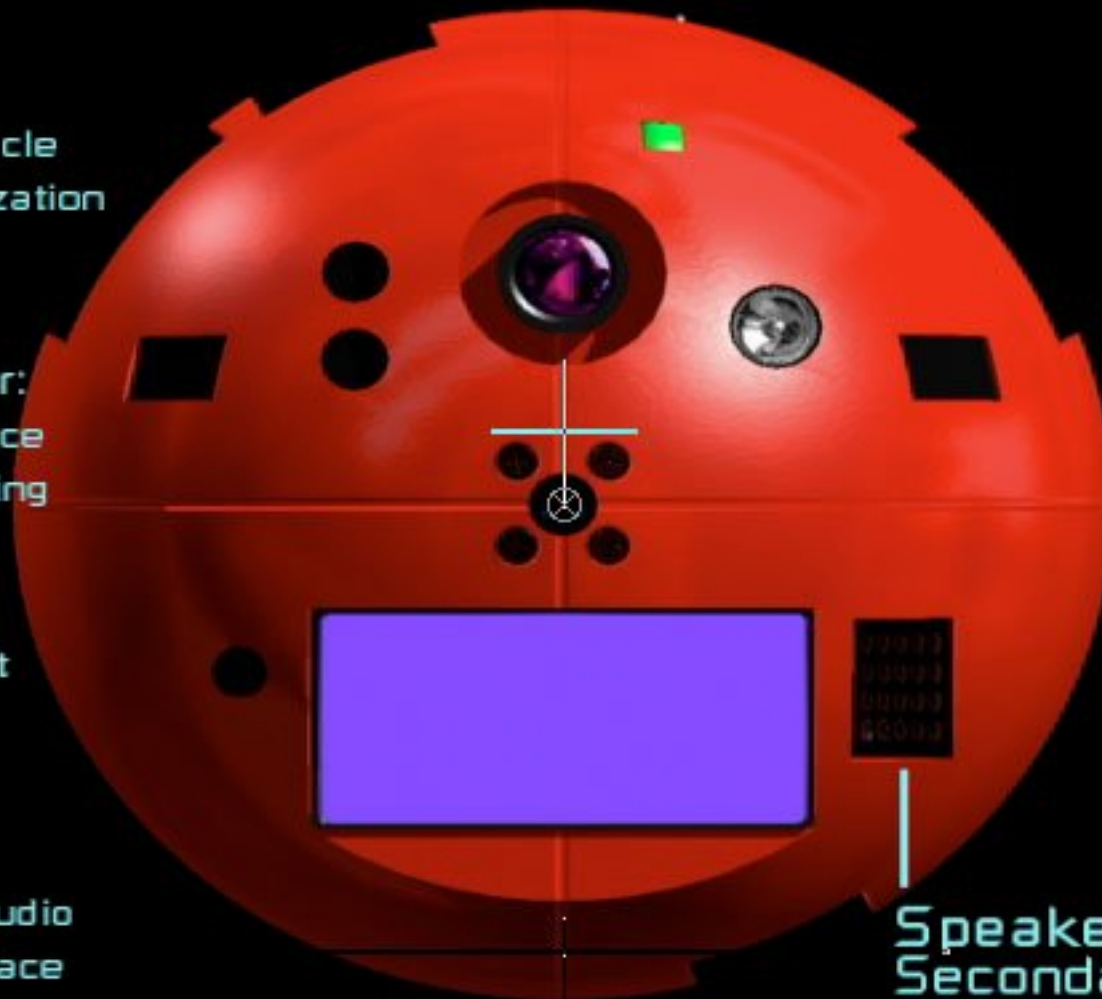
**Range Finder :**  
Navigation, obstacle  
avoidance, localization  
support

**Motion Detector:**  
Obstacle avoidance  
and remote sensing

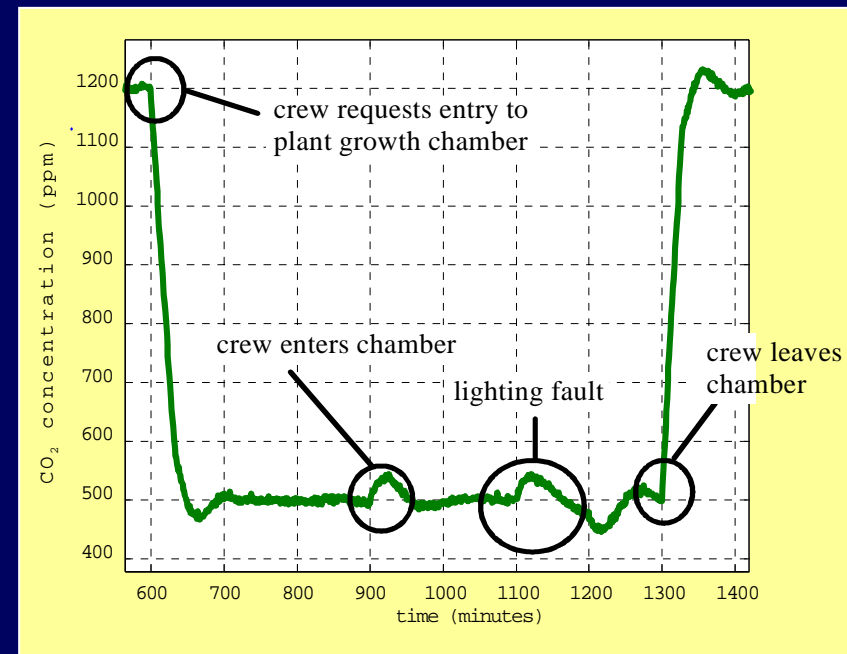
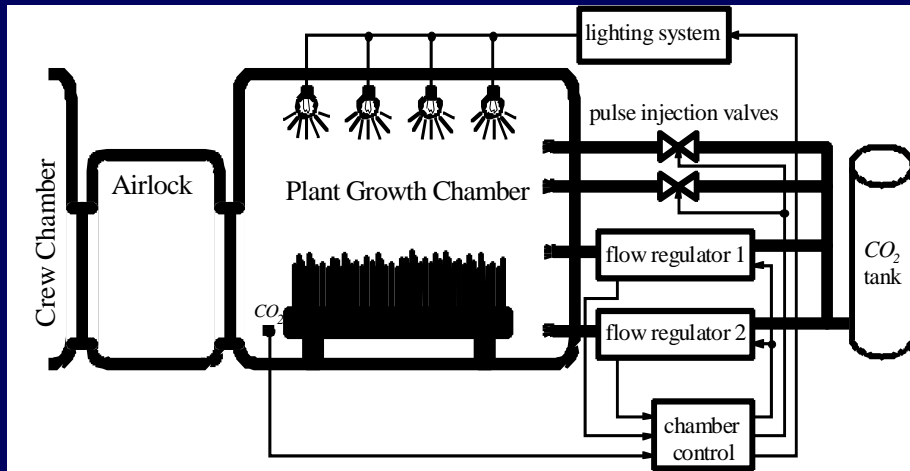
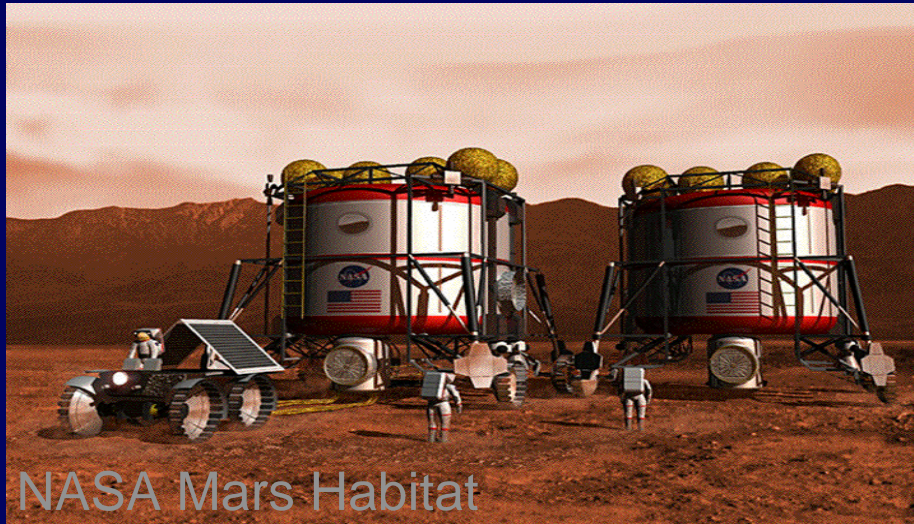
**Thrust Port:**  
Microthrust duct  
fan locomotion

**Microphone:**  
Primary Crew audio  
command interface

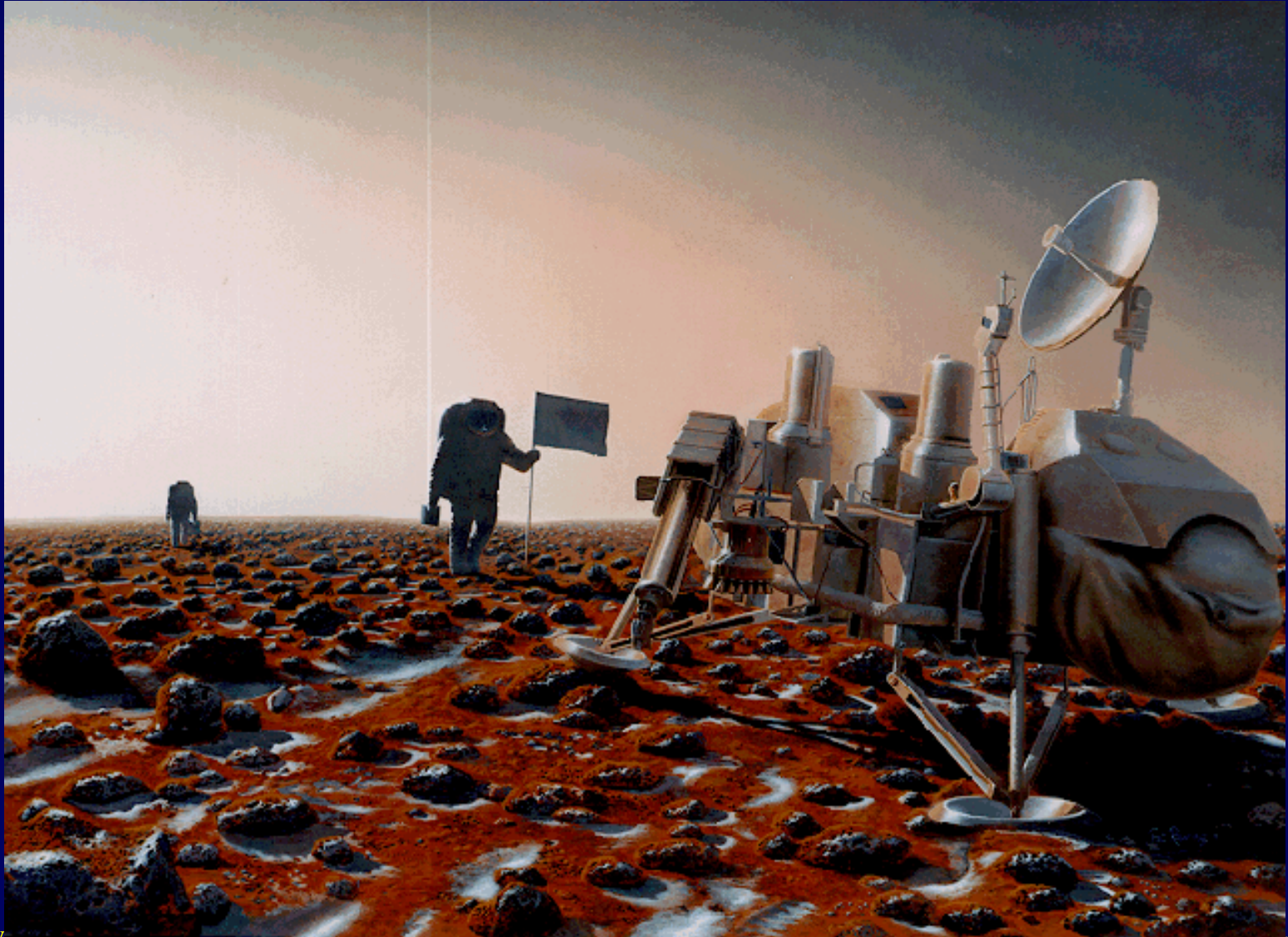
**Speaker:**  
Secondary Crew  
output audio interface



# Autonomous Systems use Models to Anticipate or Detect Subtle Failures



# The Role of Robots in Human Exploration



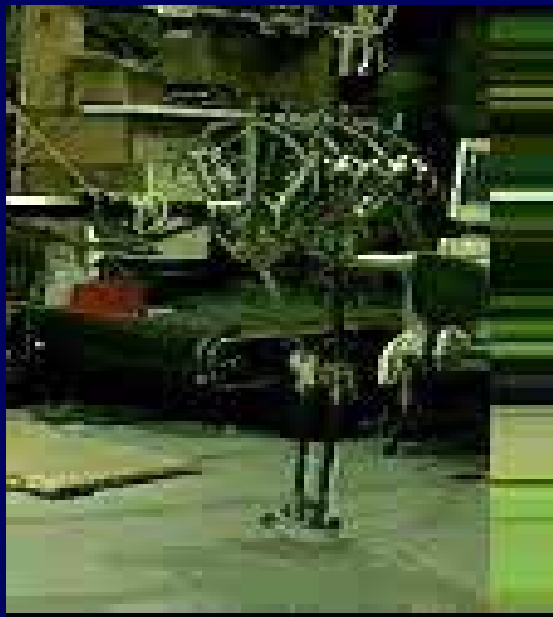
# Robonaut: Robotic Assistance For Orbital Assembly and Repair





# Exploration by Quadrupeds and Bi-Peds

Marc Raibert, MIT Leg Lab & Boston Dynamics

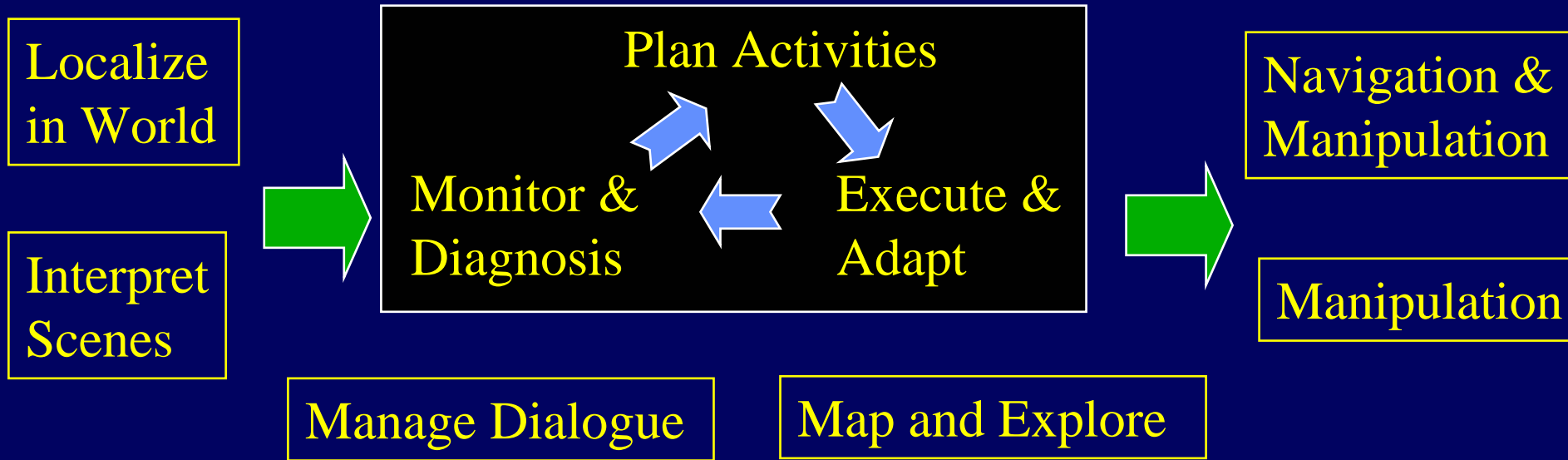


# Outline

- Examples of Robots as Explorers
- **Course Objectives**
- Student Introductions and Goals
- Introduction to Model-based Programming

# Course Objective 2

- To understand advanced methods for creating highly capable cognitive robots.



Accomplished by:

- Lectures on advanced core methods
- ~ Implement & empirically compare two core methods.

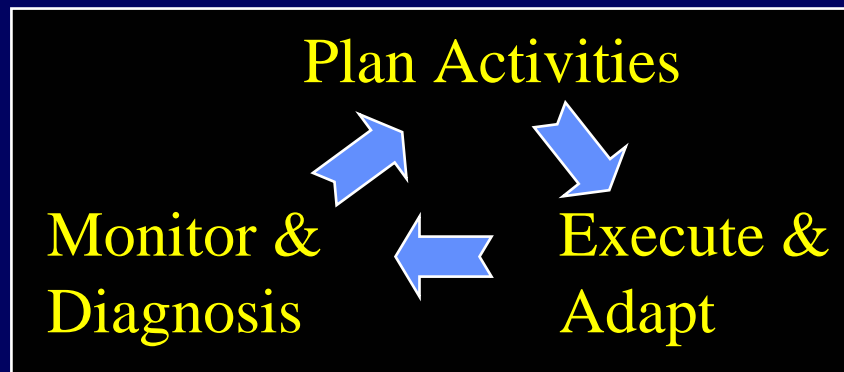
# Lectures: Planning and Acting Robustly

## Monitoring, and Diagnosis

- Diagnosing Multiple Faults
- Constraint-based Monitoring
- Hybrid Monitoring and Estimation

## Planning Missions

- Planning using Informed Search
- Planning with Time and Resources
- Robust Plan Execution Through Dynamic Scheduling
- Reactive Planning and Execution



# Lectures: Interacting With The World

## Simultaneous Localization and Mapping

- Basic SLAM
- Vision-based SLAM

## Cognitive Vision

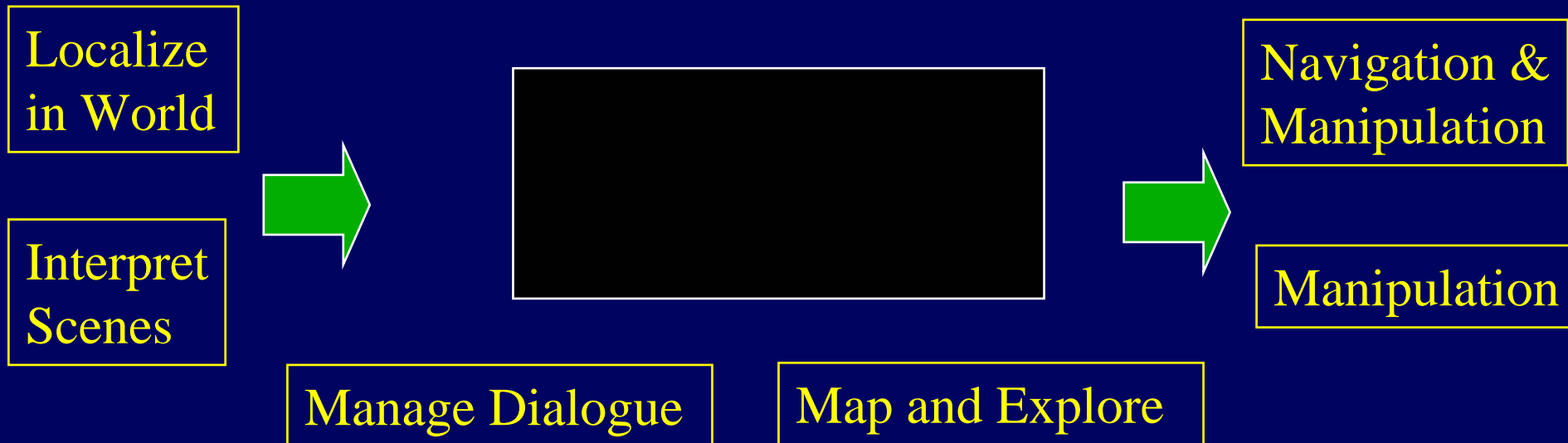
- Visual Interpretation using Probabilistic Grammars
- Context-based Vision

## Navigation & Manipulation

- Probabilistic Path Planning
- Exploring Unknown Environments

## Human - Robot Interaction

- Discourse Management & Nursebot
- Social Robotics



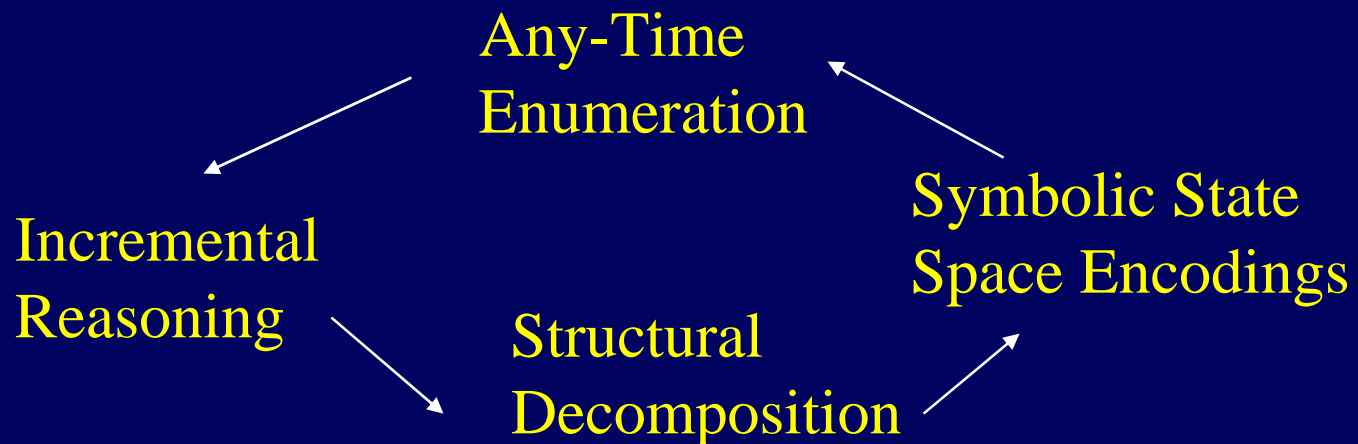
# Lectures: Fast, Large-scale Reasoning

## Optimality and Soft Constraints

- Optimal CSPs and Conflict-Learning
- Valued CSPs and Dynamic Programming
- Solving CSPs through Tree Decomposition

## Incremental Methods

- Incremental Satisfiability
- Incremental Scheduling
- Incremental Path Planning



# Topics On Cognitive Robot Capabilities

- Robots that Plan and Act in the World
  - Robots that Deftly Navigate
  - Planning and Executing Complex Missions
- Robots that Are State-Aware
  - Robots that Find Their Way In The World
  - Robots that Deduce Their Internal State
- Robots that Preplan For An Uncertain Future
  - Theoretic Planning in a Hidden World
  - State and Fault Aware Systems

## Course Objective 3

- To dive into the recent literature, and collectively synthesize, clearly explain and evaluate the state of the art in cognitive robotics.

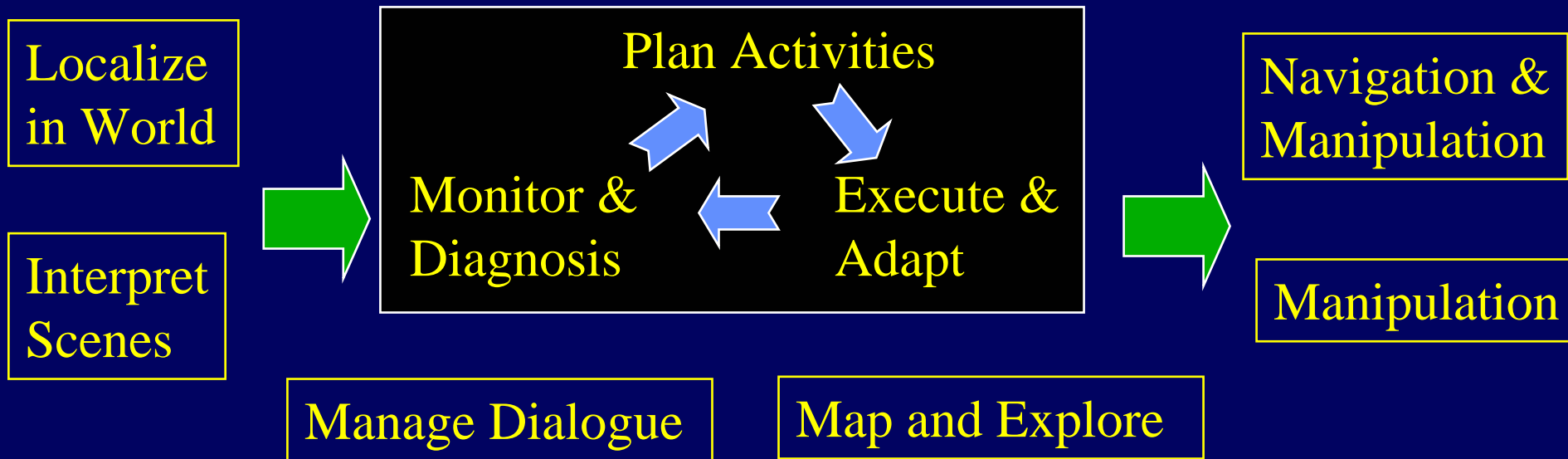
Accomplished by:

- Group lectures on advance topic
  - One 40 minute lecture per student
  - tutorial article on ~2 methods, to support lectures.
  - Groups of size ~2.



# Course Objective 4

To apply one or more core reasoning methods to create a simple agent that is driven by goals or rewards



Accomplished by: Final project during half of course

- Implement and demonstrate one or more reasoning methods in a simple cognitive robot scenario (simulated or hardware).
- Final project report.
- Short project demonstration.

# Outline

- Examples of Robots as Explorers
- Course Objectives
- **Student Introductions and Goals**
- Introduction to Model-based Programming