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Modeling Salamander Mechanics

In recent years, the fields of engineering, computer science, and robotics have turned to nature for inspiration. Researchers have begun to study animal movement because it offers a near perfect model of locomotion. The purpose of this project is to design and construct a robotic salamander capable of movement that replicates the gait of a real salamander. Experiments are carried out to determine how various design factors effect robot speed and gait. Robot leg length and the pattern of undulation are factors influencing speed and gait. Further research might include development of an autonomous control system for the robot.