



# Bio-inspired Autonomous Engineered Systems

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( All PDs of ENG, MPS, BIO and CISE)



# Development Background

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1. Extramural (community) Blue Ribbon Panel study '06-'07
2. Internal (NSF) development of interdisciplinary research frontier at the interface of 4 Directorates ENG, MPS, BIO and CISE in "Biosensing and Bioactuation" '07

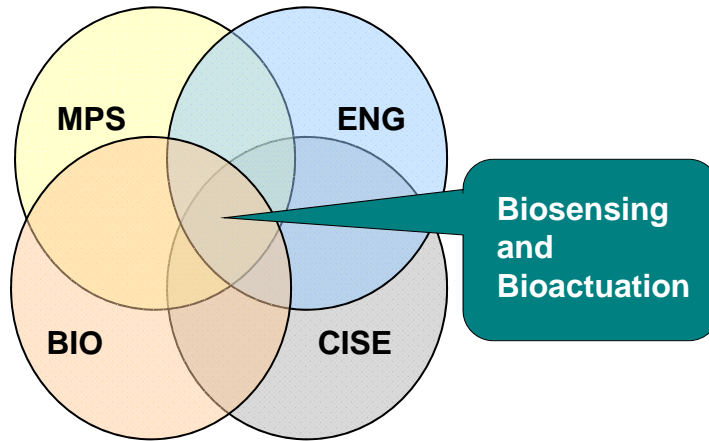
*---NSF Internal Symposium: 07/31/07 (Report to ADs: 10/05/07)*

3. Integration of internal & external developments  
*---Extramural BioS & BioA Workshop, 11/27 & 28/07 (Report to ADs 01/07/08)*

**This EFRI represents the consolidated context of the quadrilateral frontier research on BioS & BioA**



## Interface of Cross-Directorate Research Interest



## Bio-inspired Autonomous Engineered Systems

**Purpose:** Develop new integrated knowledge for creation of engineering systems and devices with embedded human-centric and bio-inspired intelligence and autonomy

**Application:** Better life quality, health, safety and security

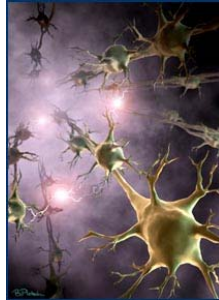


# Biological Intelligence

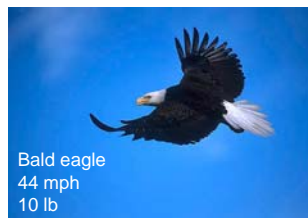
Sense

Compute/Control

Action



# Machine vs. Biology



Bald eagle  
44 mph  
10 lb



Boeing747 583 mph  
850,000 lb (max takeoff weight)



Cheetah  
114 km/h (72 mph)



Bullet train  
Over 300 km/h

## Biological Systems and Man-made Systems (Real Time Decision Making/Actuation)

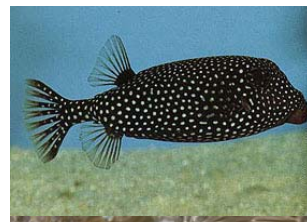
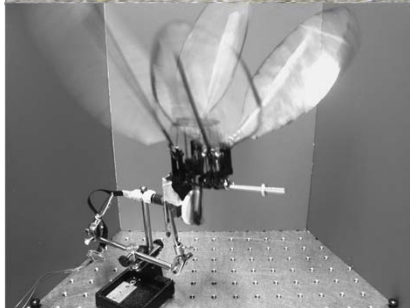


Formation flight



Vehicle platoon (Automated Highway Systems by Calif PATH)

## Bio-inspired Robots: Dragonfly Robot and Boxfish Robot



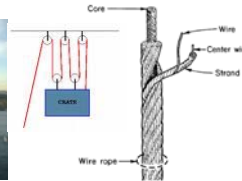
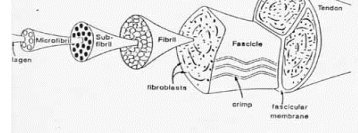


## Research Thrust Areas

### 1. Hierarchical Organization of Biological Systems

--determine the subtleties underlying the growth of hierarchical bio-systems, and their use in sensing and actuation; apply to new multi-scale and multi-functional engineered systems

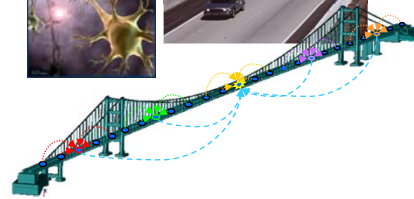
Hierarchical structure of a tendon used to transmit force from muscle to bone.



## Research Thrust Areas

### 2. Sensor Informatics Guided by Life

--Understand and emulate data mining and prioritization, as well as decision-making processes, in living organisms to facilitate monitoring, assessment, and control of complex engineered systems in sensor rich environments

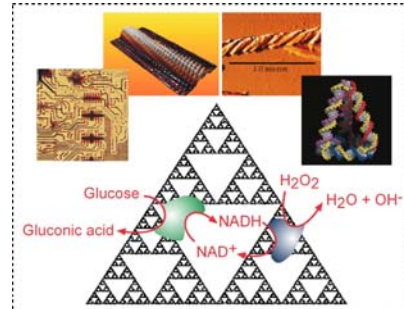




## Research Thrust Areas

### 3. Multi-functional Materials and Devices for Distributed Actuation and Sensing

--Through understanding of biological systems, their ability to exhibit fault-tolerant actuation under control with a wide dynamic range, develop new composite material systems that can retain some of nature's behavioral characteristics



## Research Thrust Areas

### 4. Forward Engineering & Design of Biological Components & Systems

-- Synthesize hybrid *mechanical/electronic/living* systems through system-level integration of biological and engineering components that sense, actuate, compute, regenerate, and efficiently reallocate resources to achieve desired responses and functions



Programmed tissue generation / repair



Sustainable / green construction materials  
<http://www.inhabitat.com/2005/09/18/rac-tree-hab/>



## **Integration of Engineering and Biosciences- Examples**

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- **Using microfluidic incubator arrays to study environmental pressure on bacterial, viral, etc. evolution/selection**
- **Understanding interaction between fluid dynamics, cell orientation, raft formation, and cholesterol absorption issues resulting in plaque formation in the arterial passages.**
- **Solid-fluid interaction computational modeling of lung behavior, so that effects of scar tissue, resections, and other abnormalities can be observed on compliance, particle deposition etc.**
- **Novel design of bioreactors (magnetic) to grow larger tissues for different studies i.e., long arterial**



## **Transformative Ideas & Research**

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- **New generation bio-inspired sensors and actuators mimicking human senses & control**
- **Autonomous systems with cognitive capabilities mimicking self awareness and learning**
- **New paradigms of sensor fusion and on-line informatics**
- **Human-like cognitive robotic systems**
- **Multi-functional materials & morphic systems: design & control**

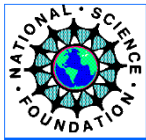


## Management Plan and Budget

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- **Management Team: one member from each participating ENG division plus one each from MPS, BIO and CISE, with balanced device and systems expertise**
- **Estimated budget requirement: \$10-15M total**
- **Multi-disciplinary team (minimum 3 PIs/coPIs) proposals only, with PI from an Engineering Department**
- **Standard grants for 4 years duration at max \$500K/yr**
- **Estimated number of proposals: 100 (PIs/co-PIs must be from different disciplines [3 minimum] )**
- **Estimated number of awards: 5-7**



## Future Path of the Community

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- **Fundamental EFRI research on this topic will create:**
  - New paradigms for Biosensing & Bioactuation R&D
  - New technologies and tools for health care, search and rescue, etc.
  - Technology-driven wealth and job creation, and enhanced national security
- **A new interdisciplinary research community will be created to provide intellectual leadership in Bio-inspired Autonomous Engineered Systems**
- **Talented graduate students will go on to become:**
  - Interdisciplinary academic leaders
  - Entrepreneurs leading start-up companies
  - Bridges to the global community





## Samples of Proposal Titles

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### Sensors & Informatics

- Nano-engineered artificial neuron circuitry for multimodal signal processing and control
- Soft polymer micro-systems with integrated sensing, control and energy harvesting capability



## Samples of Proposal Titles

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### Bio-inspired Active Materials & Devices:

- Active material-based actuators for flying “insect” robots
- Flipper-driven bio-autonomous vehicles for underwater monitoring and exploration
- Self-controlled knee implants with energy harvesting mechanism
- Toxic-free biomaterials for nano-robot surgery systems



## **Samples of Proposal Titles**

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### **Civil Infrastructures & Other Systems**

- **Smart skins for civil structures**
- **Self-regenerated, self-healing engineered systems**
- **Bio-mechatronic micro/nano robots for search & surveillance**
- **Bio-reactive materials and structures for impact mitigation**



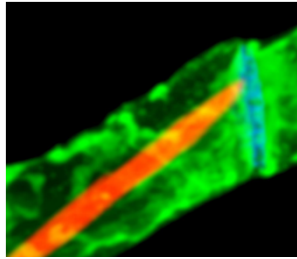
## **Backup Slides to follow**

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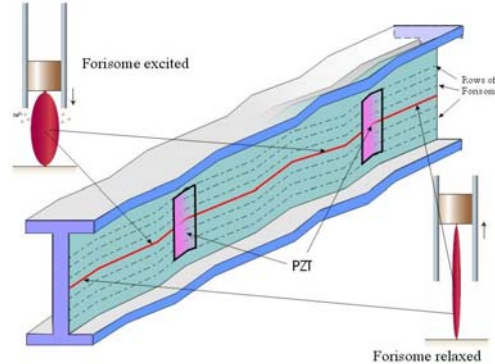


## Self-Powered Hybrid Forisome Nerve System

**Objective:** produce a sensory nerve system for civil structures by using forisomes as the mechanoreceptors, nerve fibers, and spinocervical tract to the nodal and central processing units.



Reconstruction of a sieve element of the *Vicia faba* with a forisome (red) located close to a sieve plate (blue); other membrane structures in green. The forisome shown is 30  $\mu\text{m}$  long. Forisome can swell/deswell in response to stimuli.



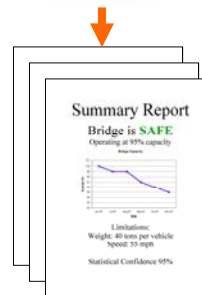
## Online Informatics

**Optimal use of information for effective real-time decision making and system control for infrastructure and the environment**

**Current Challenge:** The continuous growth in our ability to collect and disseminate data and information results in the likelihood of data inundation

### Research Thrusts

- Multiple strategies to acquire, store, transmit, aggregate, mine, validate, analyze, and visualize data
- Inference mechanisms for *information trustworthiness* and *risk uncertainty*.
- Cyber tools for diagnosis and prognosis for fast and robust extraction of essential features from the data and identify anomalies in highly uncertain and evolving environments.
- Ways of evaluating related social sciences, public policy, and human behavior





# Bio-inspired SHM

- **Biology Inspired**

- Dense network array mimics nervous system of living organisms
- Nodes will reassign their duties if one fails like ants in a colony

- **Sociology Inspired**

- Information is transmitted through a hierarchy like soldiers in a chain of command
  - Sensor groupings act independently but communicate with a base station like countries in the UN

