

ABSTRACT

A transport assistance apparatus (1) includes first and second mecanum wheels (21R, 21L) attached to a bed (10), first and second motors (22R, 22L) connected to the wheels to drive
5 the wheels, first and second current sensors (SW1, SW2) that detect induced currents flowing through the motors (22R, 22L) when the wheels (21R, 21L) rotate, and a controller (4). The controller (4) estimates an acceleration of the bed (10) using the induced currents, commands rotational speeds of the motors (22R, 22L) based on the acceleration to follow the movement of the bed (10), and increases the commanded rotational speeds when the acceleration is equal
10 to or greater than a predetermined value.