

Chassis

Field of the Invention

The present invention provides a chassis, which is particularly suitable for a robot that allows the robot to move freely.

Background of the Invention

With the rapid development of technology, the technology of vehicle engineering has also improved. General vehicle is divided into two parts: the shell and chassis. The common chassis includes several parts, such as tires, frames, the steering, actuators, brakes and the suspension. Tires, the steering and the suspension are the core and the most important parts of the vehicle as they control the direction of traveling and avoid overturning. In general, when a vehicle is traveling, it encounters problems such as turning and crossing obstacles. Therefore, how to make vehicles travel stable and turn smoothly is the major issue in vehicle engineering. In terms of turning, the tires and the steering are the controlling core of the shell while turning. The conventional steering is a single connecting rod steering part as disclosed in FIG. 1(a). The characteristic of the single connecting rod steering is that the drivers can control front wheels independently and directly. For example, for a four-wheel car, two steerings control the front wheels independently. When drivers want to turn, they just need to turn the steering wheel and the tires would turn to the direction that the drives want to go and the front wheels which are controlled by the steering wheel would turn as well and then the rear wheels would also turn to the way where the front wheels lead to. This kind of steering is good enough for four-wheel sedan cars. However, for special vehicles with more wheels, such as six-wheel armored cars, jeeps, buses or multi-wheel tanks, a single connecting rod steering is not applied to these vehicles.

In addition, the function of the suspension is to keep vehicles and shells stable and to stay away from bouncing and shaking when the vehicle encounters the obstacles while traveling and also allow the bouncing and shaking related to the chassis can be quickly stopped. The suspension is mainly composed of a spring and a damper so that the suspension can be regarded as a spring or a damper. For civilian use sedan car, the general suspension is divided into independent and non-independent type. The characteristic of the independent suspension is that left and right tires of the chassis are controlled separately. However, the characteristic of the

non-independent suspension is that all tires of the chassis are controlled by one suspension. Suspensions are also divided into active and non-active types. The main difference between these two types is that the elastic constant and the damping coefficient of the active suspension can be controlled by the computer. After the user set up the elastic constant and the damping coefficient, the active suspension can adapt to different road environments. However, the elastic constant and the damping coefficient of the non-active suspension are fixed. They would not change automatically versus the different environment; therefore, its adaptability is poor.

The tire is a kind of devices covered with metal, wood or rubber circumferentially. Its circumferential covering material is called the tire skin and its center has a rim. The rim is fixed with the motor. Generally, the motor is placed on the wheel hub of the tire, (The motor is placed in the center of the tire and surrounded by the tire skin), the periphery of the tire (generally means that the motor is not in the center of the tire, but adjacent to the tire) and the connecting rod that is adjacent to the actuator to control the rolling speed of the tires and the signals from the steering while vehicles are traveling. The tires used in general cars are ordinary tires, which means that the tire skin is rubber, and the motor is fixed beside the tire. The differences between the conventional tires are the designs of the treads and the shapes of the rims. However, when the tires are fixed to the steering, they are not ideally perpendicular to the steering or perpendicular to the ground. They have inclined angles, as shown in FIG. 1(b), where Camber angle is the angle θ_1 between the wheel centerline Z_1 of the tire 14 and the normal vector of the horizontal D_1 , Inclined angle is the angle θ_2 between the axial direction Z_2 of the steering 12 and the normal vector of the horizontal Z_1 , toe angle is the angle θ_3 is the angle between the rolling direction Y_1 of front tires 14 and vehicle traveling direction D_2 , etc. The inclined angles mentioned above would make the steering part bear a force parallel to the ground direction and the force directed to the steering part when the vehicle is traveling. These forces cannot be avoided by the suspension because the suspension could only buffer a force that is perpendicular to the ground. Therefore, the force directed to the steering part is likely to wear the steering and the rim out.

General civilian vehicles use multi connecting rod steering, single connecting independent suspension and the motor fixed around the tire. The main design key point for general civilian vehicles is how to maintain the stability of the vehicles at high speed and how to make the turning radius of the shell small while vehicles are travelling. For example, there is a prior

invention disclosed that one adjustable vehicle chassis and its front tires and rear tires all use multi connecting rod suspensions. Two steering wheels and a cooperative control system are provided. Although this design makes the turning easy and the turning angle small, multiple steering wheels and multiple drivers are required, and the size and space of the device are extremely large. Also, it is required to have several actuators to control the tire direction to achieve the minimum turning angle. This kind of design is suitable for recreational karting vehicles but is not for general civilian vehicles.

In addition, the chassis for vehicles can also be used in robots. Since the general robots are mostly used in the wild woods or the rugged terrain of the ground, the chassis for robots has better suitability for such environments than the chassis for vehicles. Therefore, if we want to apply the chassis for vehicles to the chassis for robots, it has a lot of room for the technology to improve. Another prior technology disclosed a vehicle with slip knot suspension and a method for using a slip knot suspension. That disclosed chassis is suitable for military used vehicles, which are suitable and have better adaptabilities for any rugged and obstacle resistant environments and their tires also have good mobility. However, the chassis disclosed in that invention cannot lead the robots to climb the ladders, turn to any traveling directions, and its connecting mobility devices do not specify that it is for robots or for vehicles, which means that it does not consider whether the changes of the mobility device on chassis would impact the operation of the chassis.

In summary, the prior technology lacks a stable chassis that can carry a robot and lacks a universal chassis that has a small turning radius and can climb ladders with good mobility.

Object of the Invention

The object of the invention is to provide a chassis which not only with an easy structure, but also with its suspension to control the height of the chassis to the ground so that the chassis can maintain in a stable situation in any rugged environments and can move to the desired places fast and correctly.

Besides, the others object of our invention is to supply a widely-used chassis which can be suitable to every vehicle body.

Summary of the Invention

According to the disadvantage of the previous invention, the present invention provides a chassis that improves the disadvantages mentioned above and a robot that utilize this invention of the chassis.

This invention provides a chassis, which is connected with a mobility device, including: a suspension set up under the bottom of the mobility device, a steering pivotally connected with the suspension, a controller connected with the suspension and steering electrically. The tire is pivotally connected to the steering and set up under the steering and the steering shaft of the steering axially coincides with the steering shaft of the tire. By doing so, the controller can control the turning direction of the tire and the height of the suspension through the suspension and the steering.

Preferably, the suspension is selected from an independent suspension, a non-independent suspension or a mechanical leg type of the independent suspension.

Preferably, the suspension is to adjust the height of the chassis to the ground.

Preferably, the steering has a damper that connects the center of the tire.

Preferably, the steering can change the angle of the camber angle, the inclination angle, the toe angle and the caster angle of the tire.

Preferably, the controller is electrically and wirelessly connected to the suspension and the steering.

Preferably, the tire is a spherical tire or a drum tire.

Preferably, the operation modes when the chassis is in motion are an obstacle mode, a climbing mode, a descending mode, and a turning mode.

Preferably, the chassis has a 360-degree straight and rotating structures when the chassis is on the turning mode.

Preferably, the device has a shell, a bottom portion and a chassis. The shell and the bottom portion are pivotally connected to each other by a pivot shaft and the chassis is pivotally connected to the bottom portion.

This invention provides a chassis not only with an easy structure, but also with its suspension to control the height of the chassis to the ground so that the chassis can maintain in a stable situation in any rugged environments and with its attached tires, the chassis can move to the desired places fast and correctly. The chassis can be used for robots or vehicles for different purposes.

This invention provides a chassis that has a obstacle mode, a climbing mode, a stairs mode and a turning mode so that the chassis can travel in any rugged environments. Therefore, it can be widely used in robots and vehicles.

Brief description of the drawings

- FIG. 1(a) shows the geometric view of the arrange of the conventional steering.
- FIG. 1(b) shows the geometric view of the motion of the tire by conventional steering.
- FIG. 2 shows the structural diagram of the chassis.
- FIG. 3 shows the side view of the chassis.
- FIG. 4 shows the structural diagram of the damper and the steering in the chassis.
- FIG. 5 shows the sided-perspective view of the chassis.
- FIG. 6 shows the system diagram of the chassis.
- FIG. 7 shows the four-panels about the operation of chassis.
- FIG. 8 shows the chart about the climbing mode operation of chassis.
- FIG. 9 shows the chart about the stairs mode operation of chassis.
- FIG. 10 shows the top view about the rotation mode operation of chassis.
- FIG. 11 shows the auxiliary chart by the controller calculation.
- FIG. 12 shows the top view about the rotation mode operation of chassis.
- FIG. 13 shows the auxiliary chart by the controller calculation.

Detailed Description

To make the objects, technical features and advantages of this present invention easy to understand for those skilled engineers and easy to implement this invention, a description of the progress of the preferred embodiment would be stated below. The drawings referred to hereinafter are intended to be illustrations of the features of the present invention and are not necessarily required to be fully drawn according to the actual situation. If the description of the embodiments of this present invention relates to technical contents which are all well known to those skilled engineers, they will not be described.

First, please refer to FIG. 2, which discloses a structural diagram of the chassis 1. In this specific embodiment of this present invention, the drawings and the description of the manuals all use Cartesian coordinate system, which are commonly used as a coordinate system in vehicle.

As disclosed in FIG. 2, the plane formed by the X direction and the Z direction is the paper surface, the +Y direction is the direction of entering the paper surface, and the direction of the subsequent drawings is changed according to the description. FIG. 2 discloses that the chassis 1 is set up below the mobility device 2. The size of the chassis 1 can be changed depending on the type of the mobility device 2. According to the embodiment of the present invention, the mobility device 2 may be a movable device such as a robot or a vehicle. Therefore, the chassis 1 disclosed in the present invention can be applied to the mobility device 2. This mobility device can be classified into a robot head, the chest, the abdomen, or the vehicle's shell. The chassis 1 may be wrapped in the mobility device 2 and the mobility device 2 serve as a cover on the chassis 1. The chassis 1 includes a controller (not shown in FIG. 2), a suspension 11, a steering 12, a sensor 13, and tires 14. The controller is electrically connected to the suspension 11, the steering 12, the sensor 13, and the tires 14, respectively. The function of the controller is to control all main components of the chassis 1, including receiving signals, processing and sending out commands. The controller can be fixed on the chassis 1 anywhere in any manners. For example, the controller can serve as a master of the chassis 1 in the form of a chip or a receiver. For the convenience, the position of the controller is not disclosed in FIG. 2. The suspension 11 and the steering 12 are connected to each other and the tires 14 are connected to the sensor 13 and the steering 12 respectively. According to the specific embodiment of the present invention, the suspension 11 is composed of multi connecting rods, a spring and a damper. The suspension 11 has different effective elastic constants by using different materials or structures. When the road surface is uneven, the tire 14 exerts an external force on the suspension 11 due to the shaking of the tires 14. According to Hooke's law, the suspension 11 generates displacement relative to the ground due to the external force. At this time, the suspension 11 prevents the displacement from being transmitted to the mobility device 2 and affecting the stability of the mobility device 2. Therefore, the suspension 11 would adjust its own elastic coefficient and damping coefficient so that the displacement can be quickly slowed down and disappear. When the displacement is transmitted to the chassis, it can be reduced or disappeared so that the shaking of the mobility device can be reduced effectively when the control system of the robot is traveling. The suspension 11 is connected to the controller. Through computing and sending out the signals by the controller, the modules of rigidity and the damping coefficient of the suspension 11 can be adjusted.(corresponding to the elastic

coefficient (K) in Hooke's law). Therefore, the shaking of the mobility device can be reduced and the height between the chassis and the ground can be adjusted (i.e., the height of the suspension) in order to adjust the center of mass of the mobility device 2 appropriately to ensure the mobility and stability of the mobility device 2.

The steering 12 is connected to the suspension 11 by applying a pivot connection or matching by screws. The steering 12 is known to be pivoted by multi connecting rods or gearwheels. If the mobility device 2 is a vehicle, the gearwheels and the multi connecting rods are generally included. When the mobility device 2 is a robot, gearwheels are mostly used to reduce the size. In the present embodiment, the steering 12 is composed by multi connecting rods. The function of the steering 12 is to assist the tires 14 in turning the rotating shaft to the Z-axis direction and move the chassis toward the set coordinates. The sensor 13 is electrically connected to the controller for detecting the position of the tires 14 and transmitting the position signal or the environmental conditions to the controller for calculating the turning position of the mobility device 2. The sensor 13 can be generally composed by a photosensitive coupling component CCD, a photodiode or an image sensor. The steering 12 can be connected to around the wheel hub of the tire 14 by a conventional practice. However, another specific embodiment is that the steering 12 can be fixed at the center of the tire 14, which means that the steering 12 is used as the steel ring of the tire 14. In this manner, the steering 12 is called a wheel hub motor. The wheel hub motor can greatly save the volume of the entire machine and let the tire 14 be closer to the chassis 1. Therefore, the influence on the side angle or the camber angle when the tire 14 is travelling can be greatly reduced.

In an embodiment of the present invention, the wheel hub motor is kind a motor-like structures. For example, it has a rotor and a stator. The rotor is connected to the tire skin of the tire 14 and the stator is fixed to the center of the tire 14. As the same with the conventional motor principle, the rotation of the rotor is operated by cutting the stator magnetic field. If the steering 12 controls the direction of the stator magnetic field, then the direction of the tire can be controlled so that the tear and wear of the center of the tire 14 and the steering 12 can be reduced. In addition, different tread patterns of the tires 14 may be used for different topography and the thickness and radius of the tire 14 are not limited. The number of tires 14 is not within the limits of the present invention if they can support the shell and the shell can move stably. Preferably, according to technology we have known, the number of tires 14 is six, which is

more stable and obstacle-tolerant than four. The steering 12 is electrically connected to the controller and the manner of connection may be wireless to facilitate the controller to control the steering. In the present invention, the steering 12, the sensor 13 and the tire 14 are controlled by one-one-one basis. However, the number of tires 14 can be more than the number of steering 12 and the sensors 13. In order to achieve the best controlling performance, the number of the steering 12, the sensor 13 and the tire 14 are the same, which means the number of the steering 12 is equivalent to the number of the sensor 13 or the number of the tire 14. For example, in one embodiment of the present invention, the number of the tire 14 is six, the steering 12 is six and the sensor 13 is six. In another embodiment of the present invention, the number of the tire 14 is six, but the number of the steering 12 is four and the sensor 13 is four. That means there are two tires 14 without any steering and sensor attached to them. This embodiment is called 4-wheel steering. Two tires 14 without any steering 12 and sensor 12 attached on them are called passive wheels. The passive wheel only has the function of dispersing the weight of both the mobility device 2 and the suspension 11, so supporting these two components. The position of these two passive wheels is not within the limits of the invention. Another embodiment of the present invention, the number of the tire 14 is four, the steering 12 is four and the sensor 13 is four, which is so called 4-wheel steering. The tire 14 used in the present invention can be rotated within 360-degrees with a special structure (the rotation axis is the Z axis). The rotation axis is close to the center of the wheel hub, therefore, the rotation radius is small and the space needed for rotating is small as well. Since the suspension 11 controls the tire 14 in a one-to-one manner, the steering angle of each tire 14 may be different and some of the tires 14 may be identical. It should be noted that the wheel hub refers to the wheel intermediate ring, the radial steel bar and the axle assembly, which is already known vehicle engineering and also this is a technology that can be easily known by those skilled engineers, so it will not be stated more here. The tire 14 has different settings depending on what type of the mobility device 2 is. For example, the carcass of the tire 14 may be the Mecanum wheel, an Omni wheel or a general rubber tire 14 for vehicles. Drum wheels for drums, spherical wheels for spherical tires or rubber tires for general vehicles. All types of the tires 14 arranged in the chassis 1 do not have to be the same. They may select the types of the tires 14 mentioned above according to the needs of the users. For example, if it is a robot, a four-wheel designed chassis can be used to save costs. The front two wheels can use the Mecanum wheels and the rear two wheels can use general rubber tires 14.

FIG. 3 shows a structural view of the chassis 1, which is an enlarged view of FIG. 2 and the controller is not disclosed. Only one tire 14 is shown in the FIG. 3 Viewed from the +Y direction, the sensor 13 is driven by a motor 141, which is screwed into the center of the tire 14 by a long lever. Besides monitoring the coordinate position and speed of the tire 14, the sensor 13 also needs to monitor the coordinate positions of the steering 12 and the suspension 11 so that the sensor 13 and mobility device 2 need to be set up outside the tire 14 and the sensor 13 cannot rotate with the tire 14 and cannot have declined and inclined angles with the suspension 11 to ensure accurate positioning. The steering 12 is driven by the motor 141, which is also screwed into the center of the tire 14 by a long rod.

In another embodiment, the steering 12 may not have a long rod as the long rod only has a function of electrically connecting to the chassis 1. At this time, the steering 12 is directly fixed on the motor 141. The motor 141 of this embodiment is also known as wheel hub motor.

FIG. 4 is a structural diagram showing the structure of the damper 121 attached to the steering 12 of the chassis 1 according to the disclosed technology, but the controller is not disclosed in the diagram. The damper 121 is connected to the center of the tire 14. The function of the damper 121 is to prevent the tire 14 from the force caused from the fixed or adjustable camber angle of the tire 14 to the Y direction of the steering 12. (as the arrow shown in FIG. 4) The tire 14 provides the function of buffering.

FIG. 5 discloses a perspective view of the chassis viewed from the Z direction and FIG. 5 shows an aerial view while the chassis at rest state. It views from the Z directions, the mobility device 2 will be blocked by the chassis 1. Since the chassis 1 is generally attached on the plane of the mobility device 2 toward the ground, the chassis 1 will be blocked by the mobility device 2. The blocked parts of the chassis 1 are indicated by dashed lines. As seen in Fig 5, the suspension 11 includes a center column 111 and the plurality of connecting columns 112. Its structure is like a spine and feet of Arthropod. The center column 111 and the plurality of connecting columns 112 are connected to the tires 14 separately. The controller 10 is attached to the center column 111 and the controller 10 can send individually and receive individually from the controlling signals of the tires 14 or the censoring signals. The center column 111 and the plurality of connecting columns 112 are all made from connecting rods and the connecting rods are generally tubular objects made of iron or plastic. The tire 14 is attached closely to the mobility device 2 when the chassis 1 at rest state, which means when the switch of the mobility

device 2 is closed, the tire 144 is automatically storage by the mobility device 2. A steering 12 and a sensor 13 are attached above the tire 144.

FIG. 6 is a diagram showing the connecting relationship of the components of the chassis. A controlling signal is sent by the mobility device 2. For example, when the mobility device 2 is a vehicle, the driver will control the steering wheel, hit the brake or transfer the file and when the mobility device 2 is a robot, the head of the robot would send out the controlling signals. All the controlling signals are included. The controlling signals may include turning, decelerating, lifting, or climbing, etc. The methods that the signal is presented is not within the scope of the present invention. After receiving the controlling signals, the controller 10 sends a first device controlling signal to the suspension 11 and then sends a second device controlling signal to the steering 12. The first device controlling signal is, for example, a command for the coordinate values to command the suspension for the next position. The second device controlling signal is, for example, a command for the angle vector value or a velocity vector value. After the first device controlling signal and the second device controlling signal are processed by the suspension 11 and the steering 12, respectively, the first output command and the second output command are sent out to the tire 14. The first output command is, for example, to adjust the camber angle of the tire 14 and the second output command is, for example, to adjust the side angle of the tire 14 or the rolling speed of the tire 14 to meet needs of the controlling signals. In addition, the sensor 13 also detects the condition of the tire 14 at any time, including the camber angle and the side angle of the tire 14 the relative position of the tire 14 and the mobility device 2, the traveling direction of the tire 14, the traveling speed or the rolling direction of the tire 14 and then sends out the information to the controller 10. With the controller 10 transmits the first device controlling signal and the second device controlling signal, the tire 14 can adopt to any conditions so that the shell can keep in the stable situation. The modes that can be applied when the chassis 1 is in motion are off-road mode, climbing mode, stairs mode and turning mode. The mobility device 2 sends a controlling signal including a mode selection message to let the controller initiate the computing of the selected mode according to the current environmental conditions. The following embodiments describe the operation of each mode.

FIG. 7 is a chart showing the action of the chassis 1 in the obstacle mode, but the controller is not disclosed in FIG. 7. In the present embodiment, the mobility device 2 is a robot. At this time, the sensor 13 can be placed separately above the suspension 11 or when use a wheel hub

motor in other embodiments, the sensor 13 can be fixed in the wheel hub motor. In terms of quantity, the number of the sensors 13 is the same as the number of the tires 14. Although the number of the tires 14 is six and the number of the sensors 13 is 6, the embodiment of the present invention applies four-wheel steering or six-wheel steering. Firstly, please refer to the drawings of the first quadrant and the second quadrant of FIG. 7, two charts show that the height of the chassis 1 can be adjusted when the chassis 1 is traveling or that each dynamic toe angle of the tire 14 can be adjusted dynamically to change the relative position between the wheels. The wheel controlling of the two charts is to control the left tire 14, the left sensor and the left steering together and all three of these components on the right side are also controlled together. In addition, the suspension 11 and the steering can dynamically adjust the camber angle of the tire 14 and the plurality of steering 12 can also self-adjust the coordinate position of the center of mass to make the robot more adaptable while traveling. Referring to FIG. 7 for the third quadrant and the fourth quadrant of the two charts, these two charts indicate that when the controlling system of the robot is operated, if the obstacle is encountered on the road or the ground is not flat, the tire 14 and the suspension 11 will automatically adjust to suit the environments and will not bypass obstacles according to the data received by the sensor 13. For example, when obstacle is encountered, the tire 14 will have a displacement relative to the suspension 11 at a certain time. After the sensor 13 senses the displacement amount, the signal is transmitted back to the controller. The controller will again calculate the position according to the sensing signals generated at different times and send the first device controlling signal and the second device controlling signal to the suspension 11 and the steering 12 to adjust the positions of these two gears. This process will be repeated until the robot successfully passes the obstacle. Besides the controller sends out the first device controlling signal and the second device controlling signal to adjust the position of the tire 14 and the suspension 11, the mobility device 2 also sends out the controlling signal to the controller at any time. By computing both controlling signals and censoring signals, the controller can adjust the position of suspension 11 and steering 12. In addition, since the single steering 12 can only control the single tire 14 that is connected to them in the present embodiment, the single steering 12 cannot control the tires 14 that are indirectly connected to it via the suspension 11. Therefore, when different tires 14 pass through different obstacles, each tire 14 can be individually adjusted to correspond to the relative position or speed of the suspension 11. At different times, six tires 14 may have

experienced different conditions, but the controller 10 has a memory function so that the second physical quantity of different tires 14 at different times can be collected in order to calculate the controlling signals of the first device and the second device. The controller 31 can adjust the mobility device 2 and the center of mass of the chassis 1 or according to the collected speeds and times while the previous tire 14 encountered an obstacle, the controller can adjust to avoid an obstacle next time or next tire 14. In order to avoid the dead angle, the sensor 13 is added to the suspension 11 to enhance obstacle detection and to reinforce the lack of obstacles detected by the mobility device 2.

FIG. 8 is a chart showing the operation of the chassis 1 in the climbing mode and the mobility device 21 used in the present embodiment is a robot and the controller is not disclosed. When the chassis 1 climbs the hill, the mobility device 2 leans forward to keep the mobility device 2 stable. Generally, the tilt angle α of the mobility device 2 is defined as that the current central axis and the slope of the mobility device 2 are equal to the inclined angle of the slope normal vector. The inclined angle of the mobility device 2 is equal to the inclination angle β of the slope. When climbing, the suspension 11 of the chassis 1 also automatically adjusts the relative distance between the tire 14 and the suspension 11 and keeps this distance according to the slope. When climbing a stable slope, a fixed relative distance is maintained between tires 14 while traveling. The wrapping angle of each tire 14 (the sum of the camber angle and the inclined angle) is maintained at a specific angle when climbing the hill in order to maintain the stability of the chassis 1. However, when an obstacle is encountered while climbing, the chassis 1 performs the steps as disclosed in FIG. 7, however, only the procedure of tilting angle 2 is added.

FIG. 9 is a chart showing a state when the chassis 1 is on the stairs mode and the controller is not disclosed. The biggest difference between stairs and climbing modes is that when climbing the stairs, the stairs have a fixed slope as a whole, but the slope between each step is periodically changed with the position. In order to deal with this terrain limitation, the slope of the stairs when the chassis 1 is climbing the stairs and changing the center of mass of the chassis 1 need to be considered. When climbing the stairs, the controller (not shown in FIG. 9) will send out the angle information, the first device controlling signal and the second device controlling signal according to the slope of each segment so that the suspension 11 itself has a swing angle when operating. Each tire 14 will alternately move forward with the swing of the

suspension 11, which means while traveling, the reclining angle of each tire 14 will be different with time and position, which can dynamically stabilize the chassis 1. This is the biggest difference between stairs mode and climbing mode. The same as climbing mode, to keep the mobility device 2 stable, the mobility device 2 leans forward. When the chassis 1 goes up and down the stairs, to keep the mobility device 2 stable, the mobility device 2 leans forward. The inclination angle is defined in the specific embodiment of FIG. 8 and FIG. 8. When its on climbing mode and stairs mode, the tire 14 can also be changed to a conventional type of bionic foot or mechanical leg for the robot. When the tire 14 is realized with a bionic foot or a mechanical leg, the structure of the chassis 1 is unchanged and the motion is also as what was mentioned above. The only difference between them is mechanical structures. When the bionic foot and the mechanical leg are on stairs mode, they can imitate the action of human beings or animals crawling the stairs and can complete the action more stably and quickly. The bionic foot can be set as a mechanical leg with a joint so that it can swing back and forth. The bionic foot drives the chassis 1 to travel so that the chassis 1 can crawl like an insect while traveling. The mechanical leg is structured to have the same structure as the human foot and the sole portion of the foot may be replaced by the tire 14. If the tire 14 is structured by a mechanical leg structure, since the suspension 11 can individually control the left and right feet or the plurality of mechanical feet, the suspension 11 is independent suspension for the mechanical legs.

FIG. 10 is a top view showing the motion of the chassis 1 when the chassis 1 is on rotation mode and the controller is not disclosed. In FIG. 10, at least six aspects of implementing rotation mode are disclosed, including at least six types: front-rear motion, left-right motion, alternate crawling motion, in situ rotation, oblique direction motion and small-radius steering motion, all like to insect crawling. These six operating motions give the chassis 1 maximum flexibility when operating. The inventor classifies the above six motion states into a 360-degree case. In a 360-degree case, the first actuating signal received by the controller (not shown in FIG. 10) includes the direction of motion and the speed of motion. The direction of motion is used to control the rolling direction of the tire 14 (used the wheel hub as a center, clockwise or counterclockwise) and the traveling direction of the tire 14 (used the wheel hub as a center, used mobility device 2 as a axis clockwise or counterclockwise). Tire 14 axis system is applied and the speed of motion is used to control the rolling speed of the tire 14. When the tire 14 receives the first output command including the direction of motion and the speed of motion from the

steering 12, the traveling direction of the tire 14 is turned $\pm 90^\circ$ with respect to the y direction and the forward and reverse rotation of the tire 14 is used to achieve the linear motion of the mobility device 2 in various orientations. The following are how the controller operates and drives the rotation of the tire 14. Assuming that the forward direction of the mobility device is 0° , the angle at which the mobility device wants to turn is set to θ , the current angle of the tire 14 is set to α , the forward direction of the mobility device is 0° (0 degree angle is defined as the same mobility device), the two angles are positive clockwise direction, r is the “wheel rotation direction” variable. +1 or -1 two values, when the current direction is 0 to 90 degrees or between 270 and 360-degrees, takes 1 and the wheel rotates forward and when the current direction is 90-270 degrees, takes -1 and the wheel rotates reverse, the relationship between the traveling direction of the mobility device and the rotation direction of the tire 14 is as shown in Equation 3:

$$\theta = \alpha + (90r + 90) \text{ (Equation 3)}$$

which means that the angle at which the mobility device wants to turn is adjusted according to the current traveling direction of the tire 14. Therefore, when the embodiment of the 360-degree case is used, the chassis 1 applies a six-wheel turning method, which is more common than the conventional four-wheel turning method. With two more wheels, the control increases the complexity of controlling. A 360-degree case can directly adjust the angle of the six wheels with respect to the +Z axis when viewed from above, which is suitable for that the rotation of the mobility device 2 is not required in order to rotate the traveling direction of the chassis 1. On rotation mode, another aspect is a rotation case, which is used in the case of a 360-degree case without moving the mobility device 2. The rotation case is suitable for that the rotation of mobility device 2 is required in order to change the traveling direction of the chassis 1. Please refer to FIG. 11 and the controller is not disclosed, too. In a rotation state, the controller calculates and adjusts the direction of the tire 14 and the rolling speed of each tire 14 to realize the turning of the mobility device around a center. The following details instruct how the controller calculates and drives the rotation of the wheel.

FIG. 11 is a schematic view showing the rotation state of the chassis 1 on rotation mode and the travelling state of the whole chassis 1. As we can be seen from FIG. 11, the currently set rotation center C extends in a straight line connecting the axle centers of two center tires 14 (and the tire 142 and the tire 145) of the robot control system, therefore, during the turning

process, the direction of the axle centers of two center tires 14 of the robot control system relative to the mobility device does not change and will remain parallel with the mobility device. At this time, when we overlook the turning process of robot control system, it can be regarded as a rectangular shape (mobility device) rotated with the center of the rotation with the width of d_1 . Since the center of rotation of each wheel is the same during the turning process (the robot control system is regarded as a mass point), the turning angular velocity ω of each tire 14 is the same. If the distance of the axle center between the tire 142 and the tire 144 is d_1 (i.e., the width of the mobility device), during the turning process, the running speed of the tire 142 is V_1 and the traveling speed of the tire 145 is V_2 , the turning angular velocity can be obtained by Equation 4:

$$\omega = \frac{V_1}{r + \frac{d_1}{2}} = \frac{V_2}{r - \frac{d_1}{2}} \quad (\text{Equation 4})$$

At this time, the traveling speed of the tire 142 can be derived from Equation 4, which is expressed in Equation 5:

$$V_1 = V + \frac{Vd_1}{2r} \quad (\text{Equation 5})$$

The traveling speed of the tire 145 can be derived from Equation 4, which is expressed in Equation 6:

$$V_2 = V - \frac{Vd_1}{2r} \quad (\text{Equation 6})$$

Based on this radius of rotation, the radius of rotation of the tire 142 and the tire 145 as it rotates relative to the center of rotation C can be obtained. Since the wheelbases of the left tires 141, 142, and 143 and right tires 144, 145, and 146 are the same, the radius of rotation of the left tires 141, 2, and 3 is the same, which is R_{outer} and the radius of rotation of the right tires 144, 5, 6 is the same, which is R_{inner} . If the wheelbases of the tire 141 and tire 142 are d_2 and according to Pythagorean theorem, the turning radius of the tire 142 can be derived, which is expressed in Equation 7:

$$R_{outer} = \sqrt{d_2^2 + \left(r + \frac{d_1}{2}\right)^2} \quad (\text{Equation 7})$$

Similarly, the turning radius of the tire 145 is expressed in Equation 8:

$$R_{inner} = \sqrt{d_2^2 + \left(r - \frac{d_1}{2}\right)^2} \quad (\text{Equation 8})$$

Since the angular velocities are the same, the travelling speed of the corresponding tire 142 can be derived from Equations 5 and 7, as shown in Equation 9:

$$V_1 = \frac{\sqrt{d_2^2 + \left(r + \frac{d_1}{2}\right)^2}}{r + \frac{d_1}{2}} \cdot \left(V + \frac{Vd_1}{2r}\right) \quad (\text{Equation 9})$$

Similarly, the travelling speed of the tire 145 can be derived from Equations 6 and 8, as shown in Equation 10:

$$V_2 = \frac{\sqrt{d_2^2 + \left(r - \frac{d_1}{2}\right)^2}}{r - \frac{d_1}{2}} \cdot \left(V - \frac{Vd_1}{2r}\right) \quad (\text{Equation 10})$$

according to this, the turning angle of the tire 142 is $\arctan\left(\frac{d_2}{r + \frac{d_1}{2}}\right)$, the turning angle of the tire is $\arctan\left(\frac{d_2}{r - \frac{d_1}{2}}\right)$. Therefore, When the rotating state is performed, the chassis 1 applies

a six-wheel turning method. Please refer to FIG. 2 and FIG. 11 together. When the turning state of rotation mode is performed, the controller (not shown in FIG. 2 and FIG. 11) will first output a 360-degree case and a turning signal to six wheels. If the tire 14 receives a 360-degree case signal, the six wheels will rotate the same angle and send out the commands including the rotation angle and the traveling speed to the controller. The controller then applies (Equation 3) to calculate the turning angle θ of the mobility device, which also includes the second operational command according to the current situation to transfer the commands to the mobility device 2 so that the target angle from the operator can be achieved. Also, there are different angles that the mobility device wants to turn at different times. In addition, when the tire 14 receives the rotation state signal, the tires 141, 143, 144 and 146 will firstly rotate at a

specific angle, but the tires 142 and 145 do not change the current position. The travelling speed of the tires 142 and 145, the distances between tires 14 and the second physical quantity of the turning angular velocity of the robot control system are sent out to the controller. After the controller estimates the turning angles, traveling speeds, and a turning center C of the tires 142 and 145 according to (Equation 4) to (Equation 10), the second physical quantity (not shown) will be sent back to rotate the mobility device of the robot control system to meet the needs of the operator. The different required rotation angles are also required at different times. The following describes the implementation of the 4-wheel drive mode. FIG. 12 is a top view showing the motion of the chassis 1 when the chassis 1 is on rotation mode, but the controller is also not disclosed.

FIG. 12 is a top view showing the motion of the chassis 1 when the chassis 1 is on rotation mode and the controller is not disclosed. In FIG. 12, at least six aspects of implementing rotation mode are disclosed, including at least six types: front-rear motion, left-right motion, alternate crawling motion, in situ rotation motion, oblique direction motion and small-radius steering motion, which likes insect crawling. These six operating motions give the chassis 1 maximum flexibility when operating. The inventor classifies the above six motion states into a 360-degree case. In a 360-degree case, the first actuating signal received by the controller (not shown in FIG. 12) includes the direction of motion and the speed of motion. The direction of motion is used to control the rolling direction of the tire 14 (used the wheel hub as a center, clockwise or counterclockwise) and the traveling direction of the tire 14 (used the wheel hub as a center, used mobility device 2 as a axis clockwise or counterclockwise). Tire 14 axis system is applied and the speed of motion is used to control the rolling speed of the tire 14. When the tire 14 receives the first output command including the direction of motion and the speed of motion from the steering 12, the traveling direction of the tire 14 is turned $\pm 90^\circ$ with respect to the y direction and the forward and reverse rotation of the tire 14 is used to achieve the linear motion of the mobility device 2 in various orientations. Details listed below are how the controller operates and drives the rotation of the tire 14. Assuming that the forward direction of the mobility device is 0° , the angle at which the mobility device wants to turn is set to θ , the current angle of the tire 14 is set to α , the forward direction of the mobility device is 0° (0 degree angle is defined as the same mobility device), the two angles are positive clockwise direction, r is the “wheel rotation direction” variable. +1 or -1 two values when the current direction is 0 to 90

degrees or between 270 and 360-degrees, r takes 1 and the wheel rotates forward and when the current direction is 90-270 degrees, r takes -1 and the wheel rotates reverse, the relationship between the traveling direction of the mobility device and the rotation direction of the tire 14 is as shown in Equation 3:

$$\theta = \alpha + (90r + 90) \quad (\text{Equation 3}),$$

which means that the angle at which the mobility device wants to turn is adjusted according to the current traveling direction of the tire 14.

On rotation mode, another aspect is a rotation case, which is used in the case of a 360-degree case without moving the mobility device 2. The rotation case is suitable for that the rotation of mobility device 2 is required, which can change the traveling direction of the chassis 1. Please refer to FIG. 13 and the controller is not disclosed, either. In a rotation state, the controller calculates and adjusts the direction of the tire 14 and the rolling speed of each tire 14 to realize the turning of the mobility device around a center. The following details instruct how the controller calculates and drives the rotation of the wheel. It can be seen from FIG. 13 that the currently set rotation center C is at the intersection point of the four tire diagonals of the robot control system (the intersection point of 141/146 axle connection line and 143/144 axle connection line), therefore, from the top view showing that the turning process of the whole robot control system can be seen as a rectangle (mobility device) rotates around the center of rotation during the turning process. Since the center of rotation of each wheel is the same during the turning process (the robot control system is regarded as a mass point), the turning angular velocity ω of each tire 14 is the same. The following solution assumes that C-speed angular velocity of the chassis center point is not 0 and the angular velocity is greater than 0. The solution is assumed that the distances between the axle center of the tire 141 and the tire 144 is d_1 (the width of the mobility device) and the distances between the axle center of the tire 141 and the tire 143 is d_2 (the length of the mobility device). During the turning process, the linear velocity of the center point C is v and the angular velocity is w and then, the turning radius of the mass point derives from Equation 11:

$$r = \frac{v}{w} \quad (\text{Equation 11})$$

Based on this radius of rotation, the radius of rotation of the tire 141/143 and the tire 142/146 as it rotates relative to the center of rotation C can be obtained. Since the wheelbases of the left tires 141,143 and right tires 144,146 are the same, the radius of rotation of the left tires

141,143 is the same, which is r_2 and the radius of rotation of the right tires 144, 146 is the same, which is r_3 . According to Pythagorean theorem, the turning radius of the tire 141,143 can be derived, which is expressed in Equation 12:

$$r_2 = \sqrt{\left(\frac{d_2}{2}\right)^2 + \left(v - \frac{d_1}{2}\right)^2} \quad (\text{Equation 12})$$

The turning radius of tires 142/146 can be derived from Equation 13:

$$r_3 = \sqrt{\left(\frac{d_2}{2}\right)^2 + \left(v + \frac{d_1}{2}\right)^2} \quad (\text{Equation 13})$$

Since four tires travel around a mass point, the angular velocities w of all four tires are the same. Because the tires 141/143 are on the left side, the tires 141/143 have the same speed and steering angle. The rotating speed of the tires 141, 143 can be derived from Equation 14:

$$v_1 = r_2 * w \quad (\text{Equation 14})$$

Similarly, the rotating speed of the tires 144, 146 can be derived from Equation 15:

$$v_2 = r_3 * w \quad (\text{Equation 15})$$

The steering angle w_1 of the tires 141/143 can be derived from the Equation 16:

$$w_1 = \arctan\left(\frac{\frac{d_2}{2}}{r - \frac{d_1}{2}}\right) \quad (\text{Equation 16})$$

The steering angle of the tire 144/146 can be derived from the Equation 17:

$$w_2 = \arctan\left(\frac{\frac{d_2}{2}}{r + \frac{d_1}{2}}\right) \quad (\text{Equation 17})$$

Refer to Equation 14/15/16/17 for the rotating speed and steering direction of the four tires to achieve control of the chassis.

Please refer to FIG. 2 and FIG. 13 together. When the turning state of rotation mode is performed, the controller (not shown in FIG. 2 and FIG. 13) will first output a 360-degree case and a turning signal to four wheels. If the tire 14 receives a 360-degree case signal, the four wheels will rotate the same angle and send out the commands including the rotation angle and the traveling speed to the controller. The controller then applies (Equation 3) to calculate the turning angle θ of the mobility device, which also includes the second operational command based on the current situation to transfer the commands to the mobility device 2 so that the

target angle from the operator can be achieved.

Also, there are different angles that the mobility device wants to turn at different times. In addition, when the tire 14 receives the rotation state signal, the tires 141, 143, 144 and 146 will firstly rotate at a specific angle. The travelling speed of the tires 141, 143, 144 and 146, the distances between tires 14 and the second physical quantity of the turning angular velocity of the robot control system are sent out to the controller. After the controller estimates the turning angles, traveling speeds, and a turning center C of the tires 141, 143, 144 and 146 according to (Equation 11) to (Equation 17), the second physical quantity (not shown) will be sent back to rotate the mobility device of the robot control system to meet the needs of the operator. Different required rotation angles are also required at different times.

In summary, the present invention provides a chassis 1. Not only is the chassis a simple structure, but also it can control the relative height of the chassis and the ground by the suspension 11 so that the chassis 1 can be used in various terrains and environments and still maintain the chassis stable. The tires 14 allow the chassis to move correctly and quickly to the desired location. With different mobility device 2 of the robot or a vehicle, the chassis can be used in different purpose. In addition, the chassis 1 disclosed in the present invention can travel over the obstacle mode, the climbing mode, the stairs mode and the turning mode and it can travel on different terrains and environment, so it can be widely used on the robots and the vehicles. The embodiment mentioned above is the preferred embodiment of the present invention and is not intended to limit the scope of the present invention. The descriptions mentioned above should be understood and implemented by those skilled in the relevant technology fields. Therefore, the other embodiments are deviated from the spirit, equivalent changes or modifications of the present invention shall be included in the scope of this patent application.

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A chassis which is connected with a mobility device, comprising:
a suspension configuring to under the bottom of the mobility device;
a steering connecting pivotally with the suspension;
a controller connecting electrically both the suspension and the steering; and
a tire connecting electrically and pivotally to the steering, and configuring under the steering;
wherein the steering shaft of the steering axially coincideing with the steering shaft of the tire so the controller govern the turning direction of the tire and the height of the suspension through the suspension and the steering.
2. The chassis according to claim 1, wherein the type of the suspension is including an independent type, a non-independent type or a mechanical leg type.
3. The chassis according to claim 1, wherein the suspension is configured to adjust the height to the ground of the chassis.
4. The chassis according to claim 1, the steering further comprising a damper configured to connecting the center of the tire.
5. The chassis according to claim 1, wherein the steering configured to change the camber angle, the inclination angle, the toe angle and the caster angle of the tire.
6. The chassis according to claim 1, wherein the controller connecting electrically and wirelessly to both the suspension and the steering.
7. The chassis according to claim 1, wherein the tire is configued to a number which is more than 2 and is an even number, and configued to drum type or spherical type.
8. The chassis according to claim 1, wherein motion of the chasiss including an obstacle mode, a climbing mode, a stairs mode and a turning mode.
9. The chassis according to claim 8, further comprising a 360-degree straight structure and a 360-degree rotating structures when the chassis is on the turning mode.
10. A robot, which is constructed by the chassis based on anyone the claim 1 to 9, including a body, a shell, a bottom portion and a chassis, wherein the shell and the bottom portion are connecting pivotally to each other by a pivot shaft, and the chassis are connecting pivotally to the bottom.