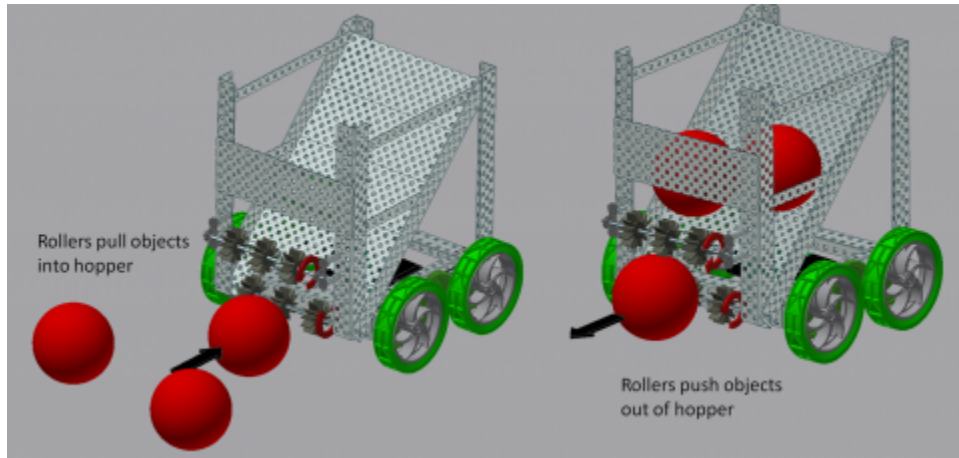




A robot collecting balls using a reversible hopper accumulator

Reversible Hopper Accumulators

A hopper is a large storage area in which objects are placed. With dumping hoppers, the way objects are released is different than the way they are gathered.

Reversible hoppers release objects through the same mechanism that gathers them. In the accumulator above, the objects are sucked into a large bin by two rollers. To score them the robot simply reverses the rollers and pushes the objects back out.