

**MAS 966: Meaning Machines**  
**Week 6: Affordances**

**Readings**

Gibson, J.J. (1979). The Theory of Affordances. In: The Ecological Approach to Visual Perception, Erlbaum.

Carello, C. and M.T. Turvey. (2000). Rotational Invariants and Dynamic Touch. In: Heller, M. A. (Ed.). Touch, representation and blindness. Debates in Psychology Series. Oxford University Press.

**Assigned: Monday, March 30, 2004**

**Response due: Noon, Monday, April 5, 2004**

Email response to [dkroy@media.mit.edu](mailto:dkroy@media.mit.edu) with subject "MAS 966 Week 6"

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Q1. In your own words, what is an affordance? Do you know of a computational system which represents affordances?

Q2. Sketch the design of a control system for an automatic car parking system which guides a car into a parallel parking spot. Take into consideration the possibility that your controller will be transplanted into different car bodies. What does your controller need to know about its own body in order to know what "parking spot" means?

Q3. Summarize the main ideas in the Carello and Turvey paper.