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“Title: Toyota Partner Robot to assist the elderly and frail”

Abstract: Toyota is currently developing several “Partner Robots” to help address the urgent demographic problems facing Japan and similar countries around the world. I will begin this talk with an overview of robot development at Toyota, and follow with a detailed explanation of the human support robot (HSR) prototype. The HSR was developed to support independent home living of persons with limited arm or leg mobility. This robot features a highly maneuverable, compact, and lightweight cylindrical body with a folding arm that has a large workspace. We have evaluated the HSR in the homes of two persons with disabilities in order to gather feedback for practical improvement of the robot.