



IEEE Transactions on Robotics

Status Report

AdCom Meeting @ ICRA'06

Alessandro De Luca, Editor-in-Chief



Highlights



IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON **ROBOTICS**

A PUBLICATION OF THE IEEE ROBOTICS AND AUTOMATION SOCIETY

- 2 Editors and 11 AE confirmed + 2 new AE (28 AEs by July)
- submissions are going up (beyond record high of 449 in 2005)
- reviewing times continue to be as short as possible
- acceptance rate continues to be low (quality stays high)
- time to publication reduced and low queue at IEEE
- impact factor from ISI-JCR
 - once again record high in 2004
 - waiting for merged T-RA/T-RO data in 2005 (available Aug 2006)
- Xplore "hits" of T-RO are rapidly increasing (hunting T-RA...)



T-RO Special Issue



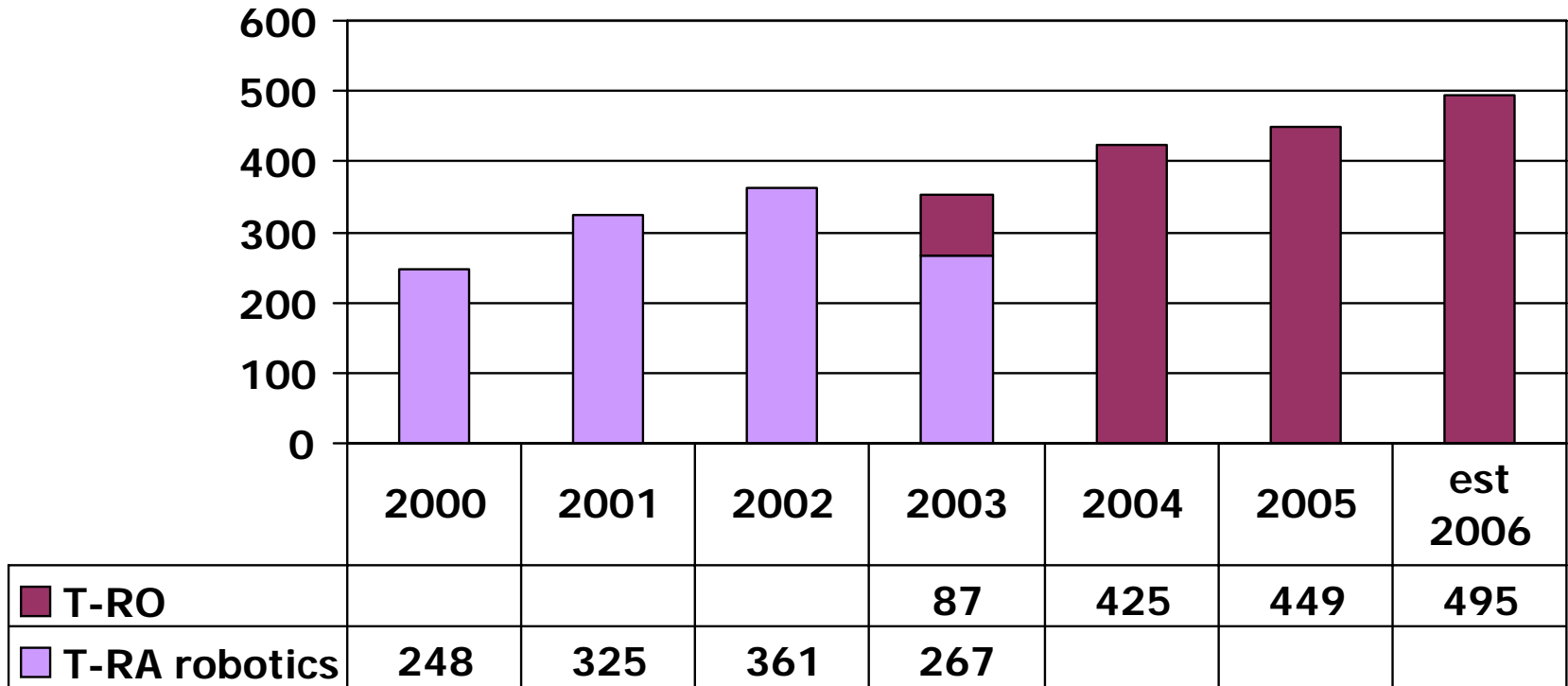
■ "Human-Robot Interaction"

- **Guest Editors:** C. Laschi (SSSA, Pisa), C. Breazeal (MIT Media Lab), Y. Nakauchi (Tsukuba)
- *co-chairs of RAS TC on Human-Robot Coordination and Interaction*
- *multi-modal interaction, adjustable autonomy, natural interfaces, cognitive HRI, reciprocal H-R learning, human-guided learning, H-R team operation, interaction robot control, case studies*
- **call for papers:** June 1, 2006 (in T-RO, web, e-news, T-ASE, RAM)
- **submission deadline:** September 30, 2006
- **date of publication:** December 2007 (or one issue before)

- **first proposal for T-RO SI that has been approved**



Submissions



- robotics submissions go up

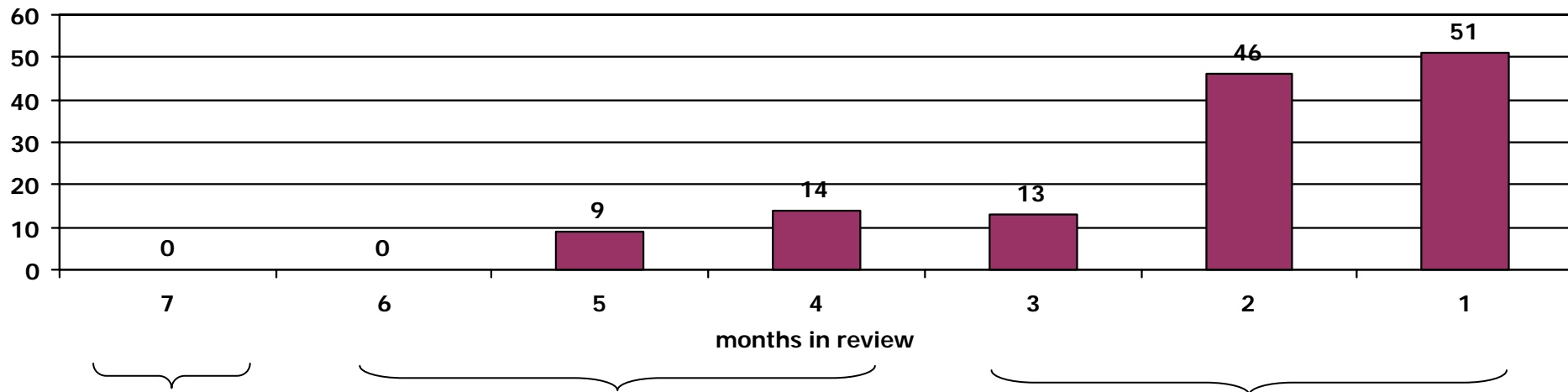
T-RO in 2005 has beaten record submissions of T-RA in 2002 (440)



T-RO reviewing times



- a look to the latest data for 133 papers currently **in review** @May12



0 in 6-9 months

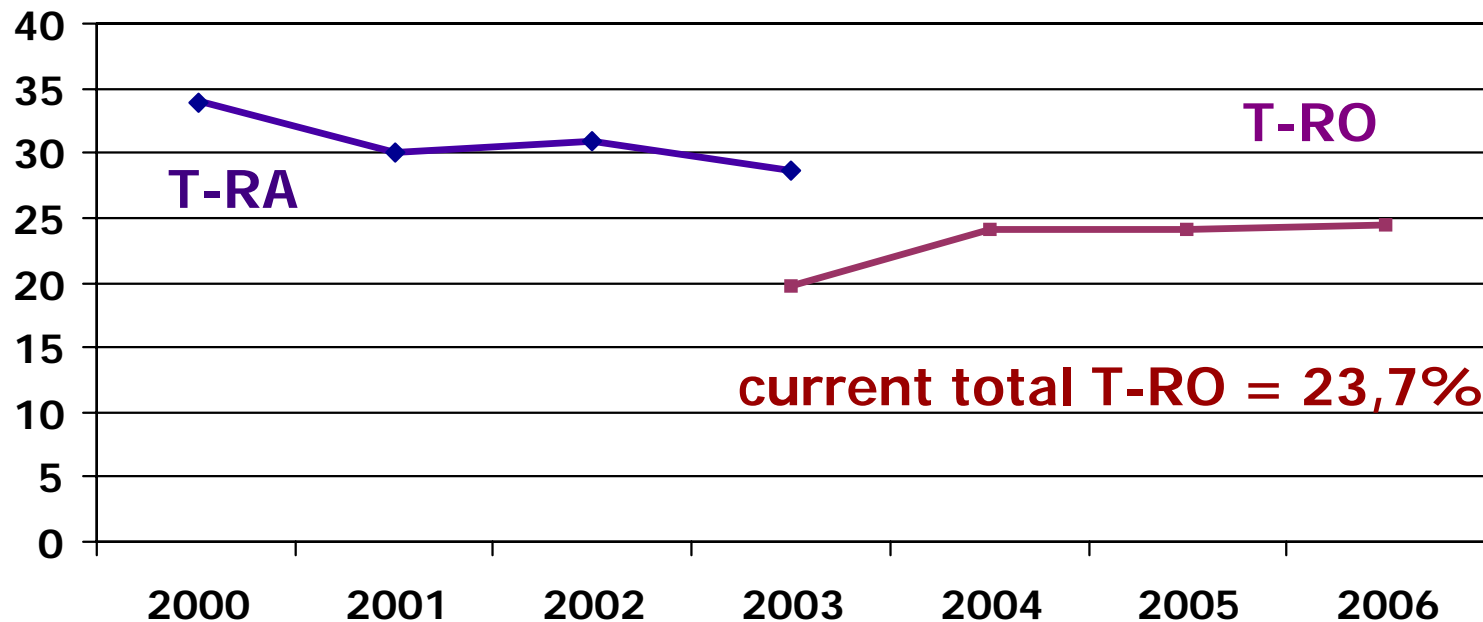
23 in 3-6 months

110 in 0-3 months

- running average is **2.2 months** (stays below 3 months since 2 years!!)
- reduced work-in-process



Acceptance rate



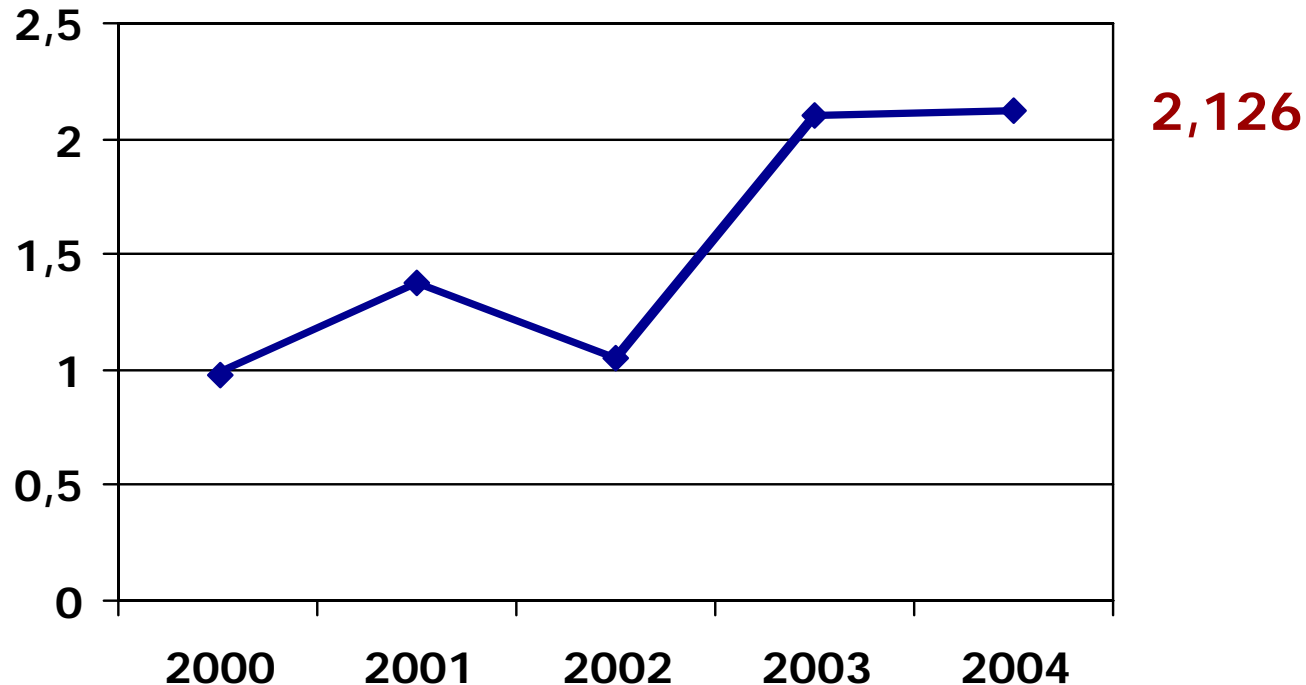
$$\text{acceptance rate} = \frac{(\text{accepted} + \text{conditionally accepted})}{(\text{reviewed submissions} - \text{withdrawals})}$$



Impact factor



- T-RA **#1** in Robotics **for years** (since 1999, over 12 journals)
- T-RA **#2** in Automation and Control Systems in 2004 (46 journals)





RAS Survey part on T-RO



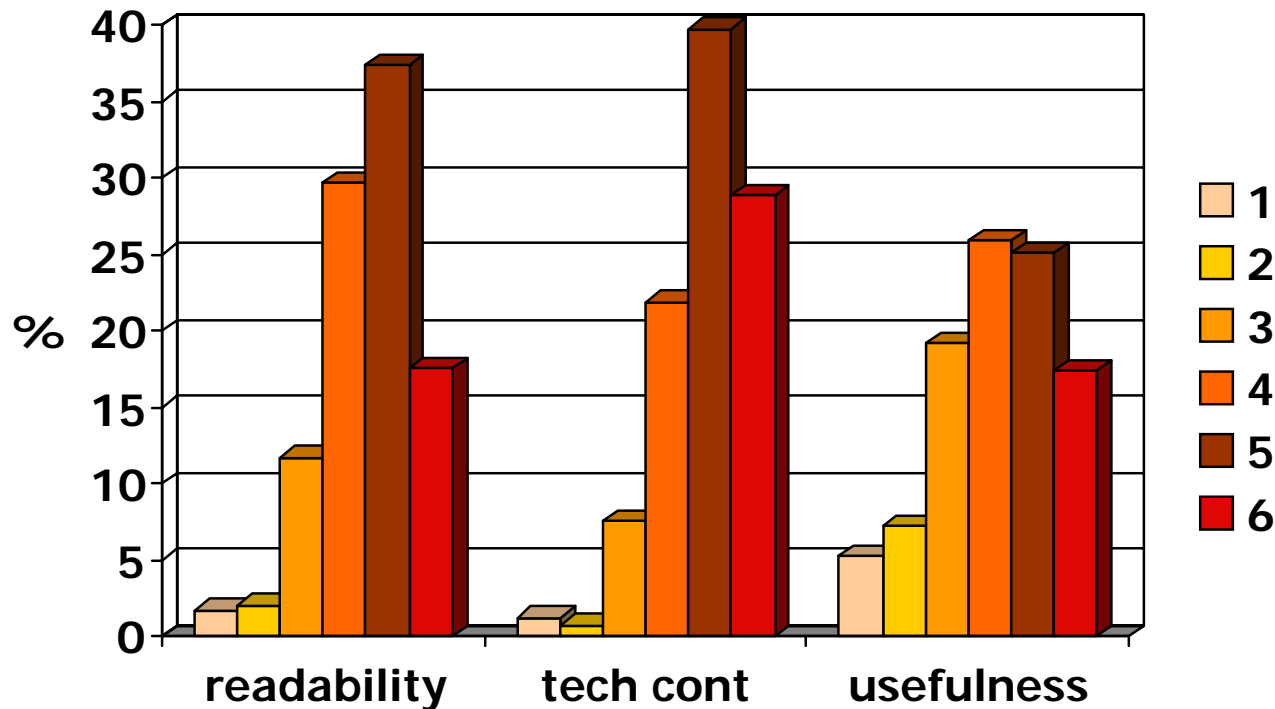
- **Readers** read equally often regular and short papers
 - almost **30%** read in full **4 or more** regular papers per year
 - good readability, **high** technical content of published papers
- **Reviewers** show overall satisfaction with procedures
 - **selective** review process is **OK**, would like more feedback at the end
- **Authors** like very much
 - completeness of comments, easy communication with Editors, simplicity of submission
 - they are glad of timeliness of review, but would like even more...



Readers of T-RO



- How do you judge the quality of T-RO papers?
 - readability, technical content, usefulness for your work (402 answers)

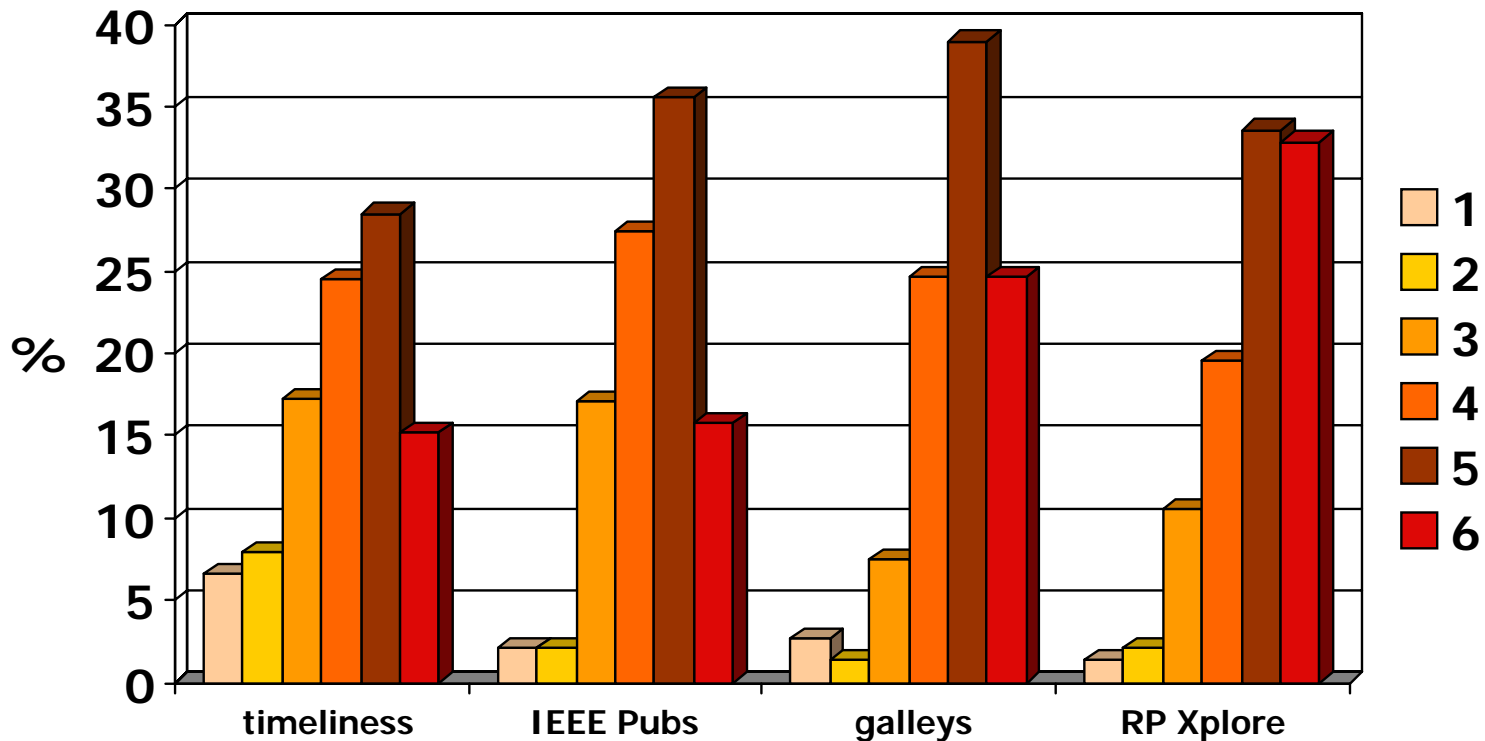




Authors in T-RO



- If you have **published a paper** in T-RO, how would you judge the following aspects?
 - timeliness of publication (151); communication with IEEE Pubs, quality of galleys (146); Rapid Posting and Xplore facilities (143)





T-RO in IEEE Xplore 2.1



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Title History

[\(1989 - 2004\) Robotics and Automation, IEEE Transactions on](#)

[\(1985 - 1988\) Robotics and Automation, IEEE Journal of \[see also IEEE Transactions on Robotics and Automation\]](#)

[\(1985 - 1987\) Robotics and Automation, IEEE Journal of \[legacy title - 1988\]](#)

Free access to full content for EdBoard

TOC sent by Email to "dist-euron" & "robotics-worldwide" distribution lists

Rapid Posting

full text search

RSS feed available

links to T-RA (for cont'ed access)



... with Multimedia



- T-RO authors can submit also multimedia material since **June 2005**
- until now **22 papers** with videos (about 5.5% of submissions)
- still few compatibility (**codecs missing**) problems, but OK in general

The screenshot shows the IEEE Xplore website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Login, Logout, Access Information, Alerts, Sitemap, and Help. Below this is the IEEE Xplore logo and the text 'RELEASE 2.1'. A secondary navigation bar contains 'Table of Contents', 'BROWSE', 'SEARCH', 'IEEE XPLORE GUIDE', and 'SUPPORT'. The main content area displays the title 'IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON ROBOTICS' in purple, followed by 'Volume: 22 Issue: 1 Date: Feb. 2006'. A paper titled 'Sensorless Stabilization of Bounce Juggling' by Ronsse, R.; Lefevre, P.; Sepulchre, R. is listed with page numbers 147-159 and a Digital Object Identifier. Below the paper information are links for 'Abstract', 'Full Text: PDF (688 KB)', 'Multimedia', and 'Rights and Permissions'. A red circle highlights the 'Multimedia' link, with a red arrow pointing to it from the text 'first paper with videos in Feb06 issue'. Another red arrow points from the text 'color figures free of charge' to the 'Full Text: PDF' link.

color figures
free of charge

first paper with
videos in Feb06 issue



IEEE five-year review of T-RO



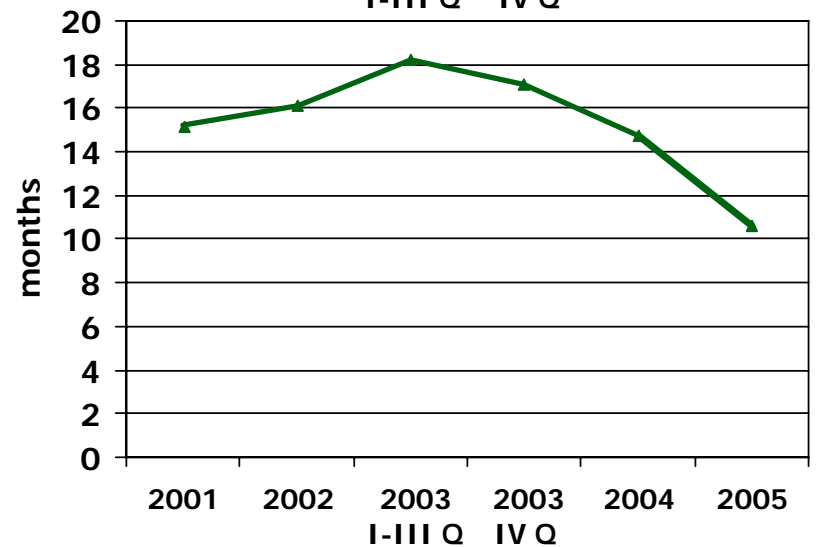
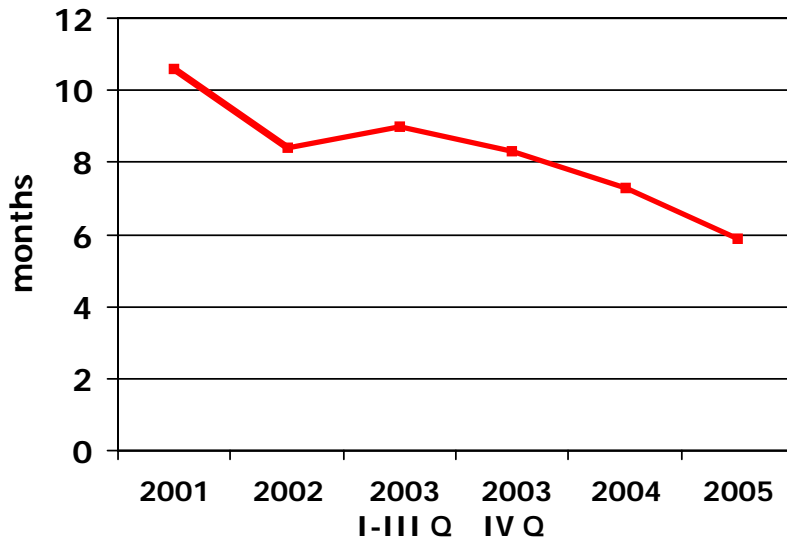
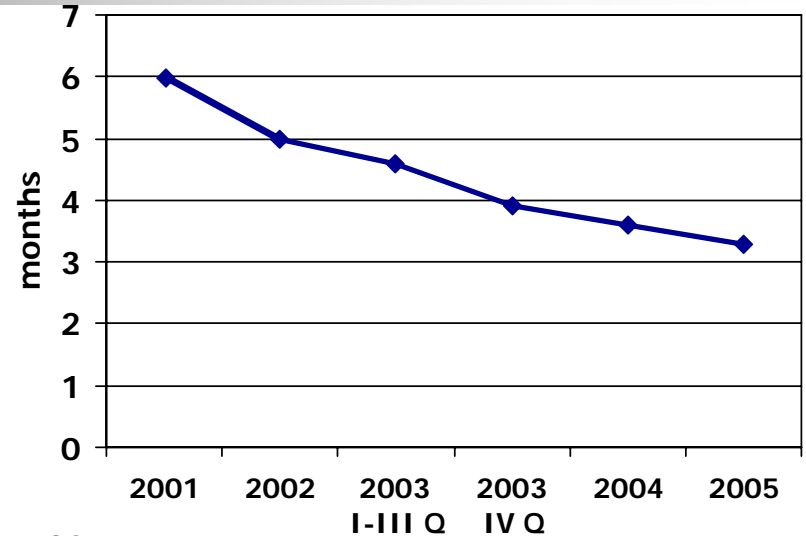
- **report** on 2001-2006 handed out to IEEE on **May 8**
 - including past T-RA and current T-RO information
 - embedded in a single document with R&A Magazine
- T-RO and RAM **review** by PRC on **June 22** in Minneapolis
 - T-ASE passed similar review as new Transactions in Feb 2006
- **positive** overall self-assessment...



Report excerpts...

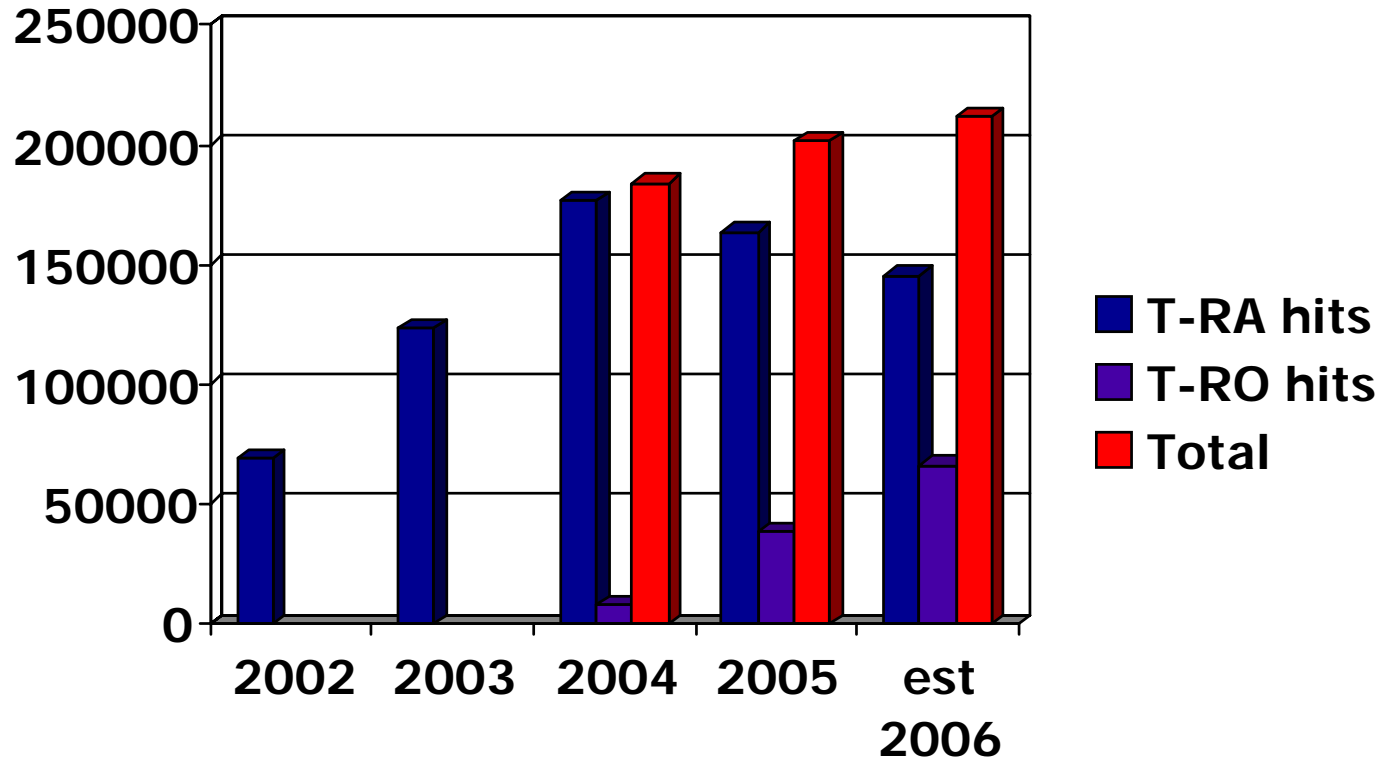


- average # of months from submission to...
 - first decision (3.3)
 - final acceptance (5.9)
 - publication (10.6)





Xplore "hits"



- conservative projection of T-RO hits in 2006: +72% over 2005



Conclusions



- Transactions on Robotics are in good shape
 - a dedicated Editorial Board

- Expand on content and keep top quality
 - increase further page budget in 2007

- Exploit electronic publication facilities
 - # of papers with “video” attachment expected to increase