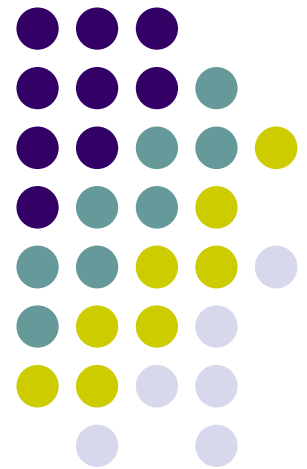


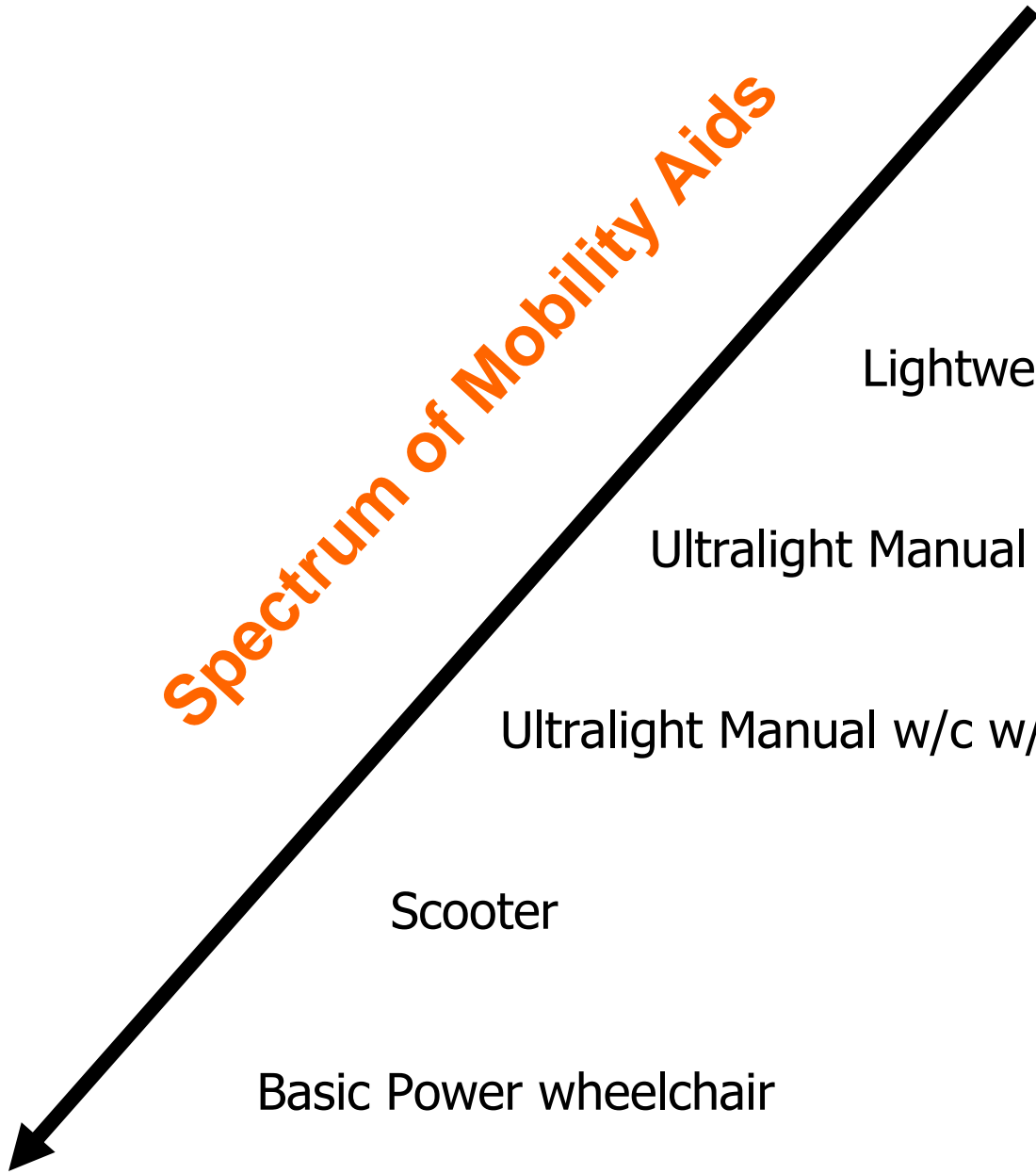
Wheelchair options: Manual to Power

Kristin Kaupang, PT, NCS, ATP

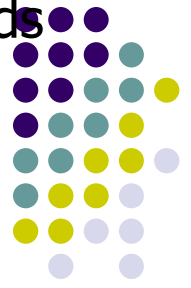
July 8, 2008



Spectrum of Mobility Aids



Ambulatory aids



Basic Manual w/c

Lightweight Manual w/c

Ultralight Manual w/c

Ultralight Manual w/c w/power wheels

Scooter

Basic Power wheelchair

Custom Power wheelchair

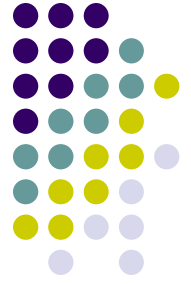


Manual Wheelchair

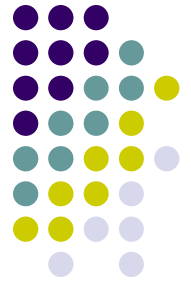
- Standard (>40lbs)
- Lightweight (30-40lbs)
- Ultralight (16-30lbs)



Manual wheelchairs



- Frame style
 - Folding
 - Rigid
- Frame materials
 - Steel
 - Aluminum
 - Titanium



Adjustment features

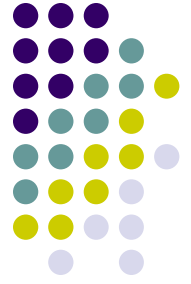
- Seat to floor heights
- Back height
- Back angle
- Footplate angle
- Camber of wheels





Accessories / Options

- Backrests
- Cushions
- Camber
- Front end angles
- Push handles
- Anti-tippers
- Caster size
- Footplate
- Bags/Lights/etc.



Backrest Options

- Sling
- Tension
- Solid
 - Height / width
 - Lateral support
 - Material
 - Mounting position



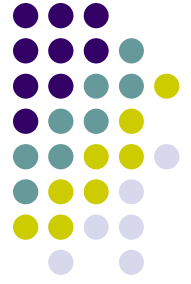


Postural considerations

- Scoliosis
- Kyphosis
- Lateral asymmetries
- Motor Trunk control
- Stabilization for function
- Stabilization for transfers



Cushions

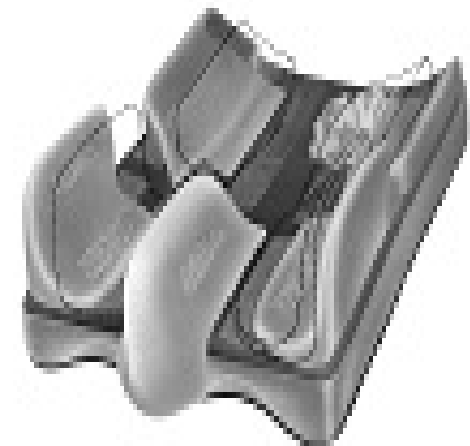


- Platform for which movements are performed
- Address tissue integrity and load distribution
- Hundreds available to choose from –
classified by pressure relieving and
positioning qualities



Cushion materials / options

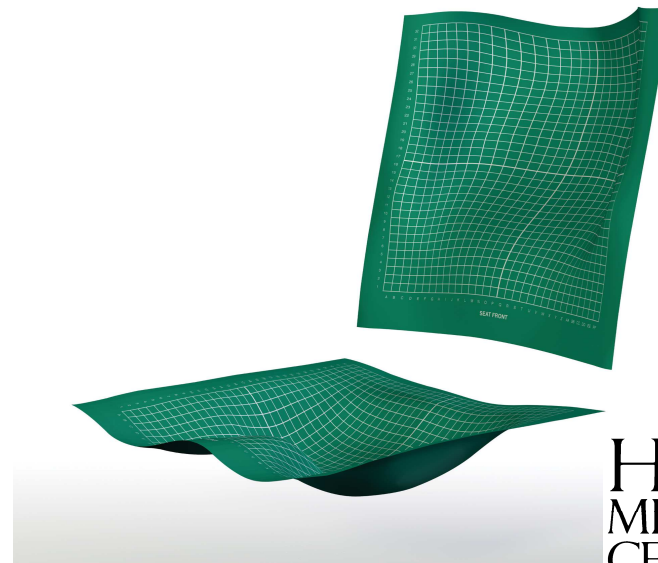
- Foam
- Visco-elastic foam
- Visco-elastic fluid
- Air cushion
- Solid elastomer and solid gel



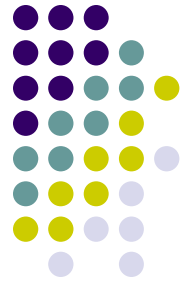


Pressure Mapping

- Goals:
 - Identifying peak pressures
 - Assisting with cushion / backrest determination
 - Evaluating asymmetries
 - Patient Education



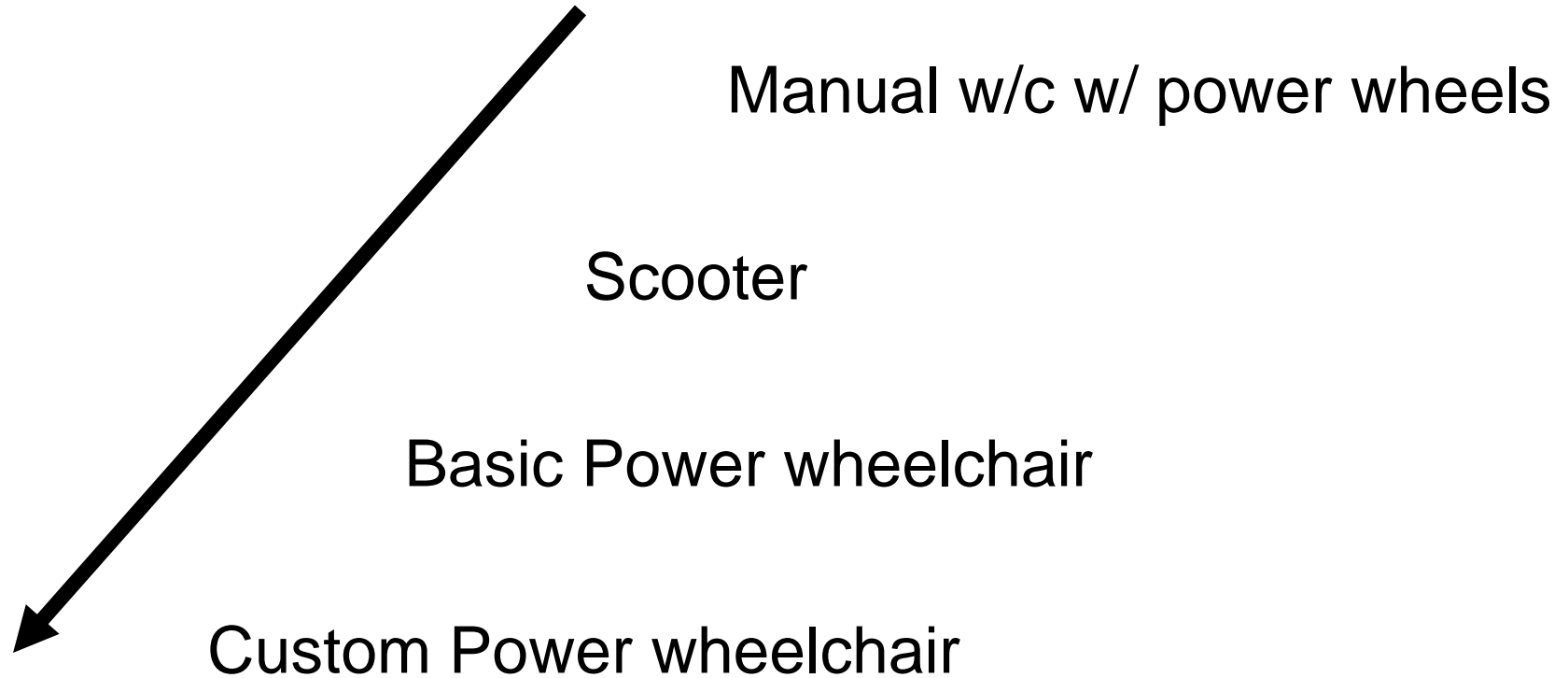
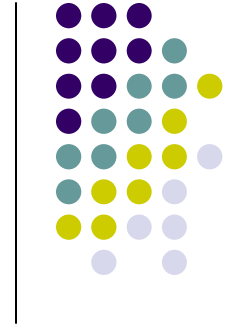
Meeting the needs of the client



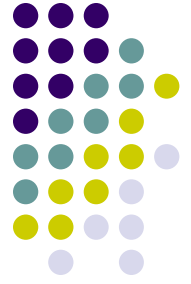
- Maximize function
- Optimize seating and positioning
- Integrate AT needs / Long term needs
- Funding issues: current and future



Powered Mobility



Why Power?



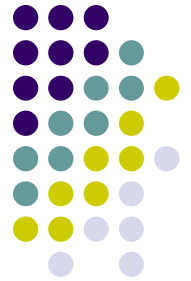
- Client unable to functionally propel manual wheelchair in all necessary situations.
- Cardiopulmonary function not adequate for manual wheelchair propulsion.
- Client requires power pressure relief.
- Work / school activities.

Power Mobility Considerations



- Environment
- Daily activity needs
- Transportation
- Energy conservation
- Joint protection and pain management
- Pressure relief options
- Cognitive functioning

Types of Power Mobility



- **Power-assist push rims on manual wheelchairs**
 - These help to extend the length of distance traveled per stroke, thereby increasing manual wheelchair user efficiency.





Scooters

- Excellent for clients who need assistance with community mobility only, have use of bilateral upper extremities, have good trunk control, and no seating/positioning needs. Limited maneuverability.



Power Bases



- **Base performance based on client's abilities**





**MID
WHEEL**

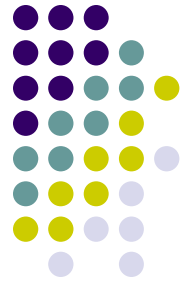


**REAR
WHEEL**



**FRONT
WHEEL**

Performance Comparisons



REAR WHEEL DRIVE

- Largest turning radius, least maneuverable
- Highest outdoor speed and power
- Rough but powerful obstacle handling
- Anti tips needed with steep inclines

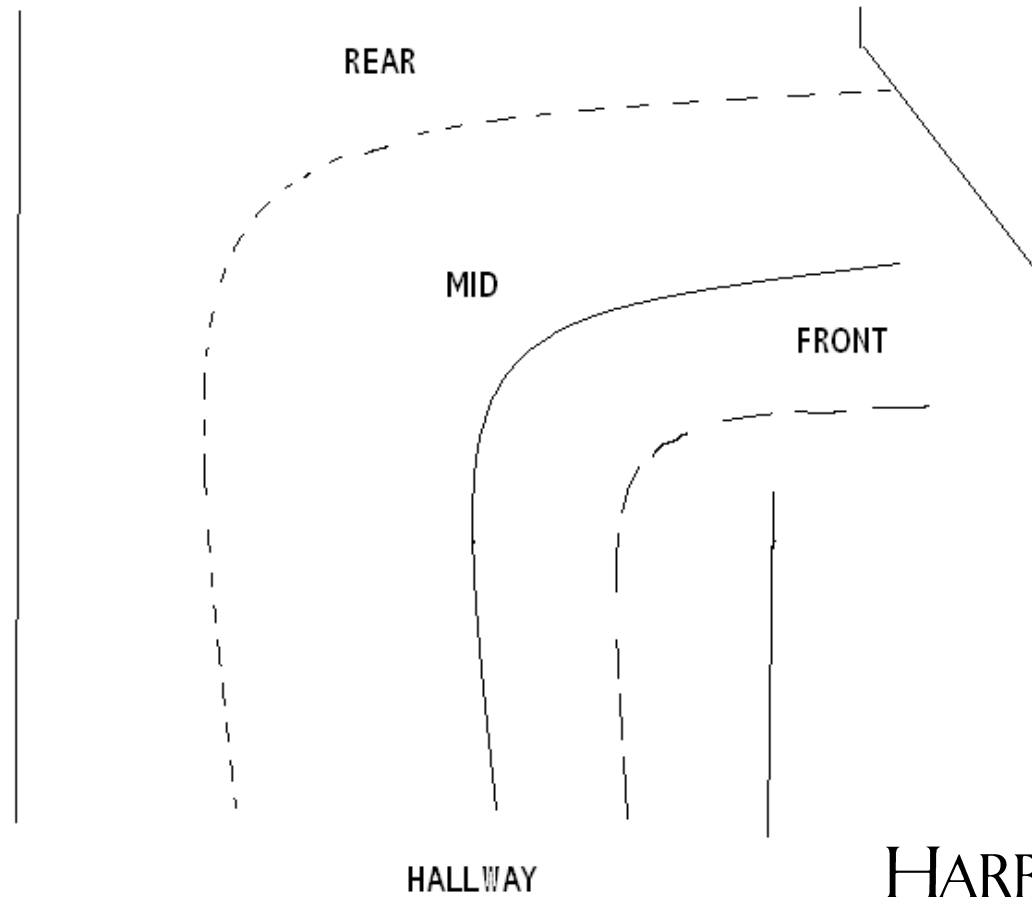
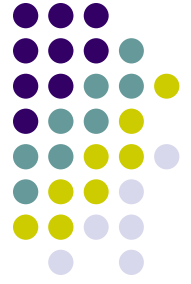
MID WHEEL DRIVE

- tightest turning radius, excellent maneuverability
- Requires auxiliary wheels to limit tippiness
- Smooth obstacle management with front caster suspension
- Hill management good, but traction decreases with steeper inclines

FRONT WHEEL DRIVE

- Good maneuverability, smallest front turning radius
- Back end fish tails at high speeds, difficult to learn backing up
- Stable uphill / downhill without anti-tippers also loses traction w/steep incline
- Smooth obstacle handling (smaller height) , but has chance to high center

Front-turning radius



Power Mobility plus...

- **Independence iBOT.**
 - Standard function – for daily mobility
 - 4-wheel drive function – for rough terrain
 - Balance function – rises vertically onto two wheels
 - Stair climb function – ascends/descends
- 4 x4 Innovation in Motion

