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Weekly Report 4

This week I hooked up my dc drive motors, and tested them with the motor driver, and microcontroller. In the process I blew one motor driver chip. I found out the reason was a rather obvious solder joint was bridged. I am baffled as I did not notice it when I was soldering, because it was pretty easy to see. Never the less, I fixed the connection and soldered a new chip , and all is well. I also had the opportunity to test my homebrew encoders. They seem to work just fine. I attached them to an external interrupt that would toggle an led when the signal would change. I saw no interference from the encoders.

On the mechanical side, I painted the entire frame with clear gloss polyurethane to seal the wood. After that dried I attached batteries with Velcro to the bottom of the frame. This weekend I plan on building the stepper motor drivers, and attaching a majority of the electronics to the frame.