The <u>University of Málaga</u> (UMA) is a public institution with a vocation to serve society. It offers a broad and higher education in a range of technical, artistic and humanistic fields. Presently the UMA has about 40.000 students and offers more than 50 diploma and degree courses and more than 40 doctorate programs. Moreover, the UMA every year imparts a wide variety of postgraduate courses in addition to the official ones. The UMA has an active and important role in the range of international exchange and co-operation programs, involving universities from all around the world, both in teaching and research, with special emphasis in universities from Europe and South America countries.

The <u>Department de Tecnología Electrónica</u> (DTE) is one of the largest departments of the UMA. It is composed of 45 professors, teaches in areas such as Information and Communication Technologies and Production Technologies. The DTE is active in research areas as Multimedia and Broadband Communications, Mobile Communications, Advances Man-Machine Interfaces, Robotic and Autonomous Systems, VLSI design, Artificial Neural Networks and Evolutionary Algorithms. Inside the DTE, the Robotic and Autonomous Systems (RAS) group is composed of 15 professors, 9 of them Ph.D. and 6 working toward their Ph.D. In addition, our group is presently directing more than 20 students doing their final project studies.

Our team has been funded from the Europe Union (Human Capital and Mobility, FEDER Operative Program), from the Spanish and Regional Andalusian Governments through several research projects, and from the private industry through technology transference projects.