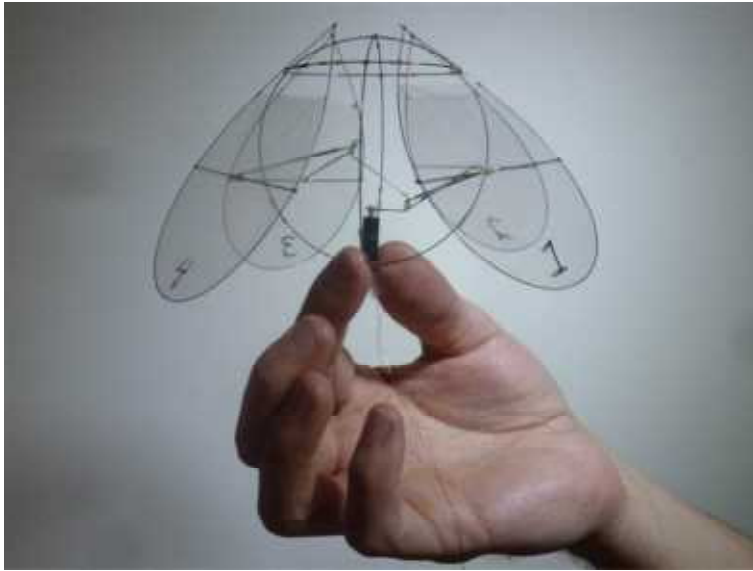


## Robot Flies Like A Jellyfish



Flying machines have usually mimicked the movements of birds and insects. But we now have an unlikely new source: the jellyfish.

A tiny flying robot was built at New York University. It copies the gently puffing movements of the jellyfish.

The robot is an aerial jellyfish. It has four wings and it moves similar to an umbrella. The wings collapse and open, "squirting" the air downwards and allowing it to lift off.

"No one's ever built this, and nature never built it either - to fly in air," said the maker. "Maybe that is a sign that it's a bad idea? We got it to work anyway, so maybe not that bad." he said with a smile.

They are very small robots. Each one just centimeters wide. And how might they be used? "They could be used to monitor the air quality above a city." the maker said. "A nice peaceful use."