Dhruv Kool Rajamani

✓ dhruvkoolrajamani@gmail.com

 # https://dhruvkoolrajamani.gitlab.io/

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2015 - 2019 BTech. in Mechatronics Engineering, Manipal Institute of Technology, KA 8.83^{/10}

2012 - 2014 AISSCE from Vasant Valley School, Delhi

95.00%

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Top 5% in a batch of 81 students.
- Best Rover team in Asia; 8th out of 82 teams at University Rover Challenge (URC), Utah, 2017. (link)
- Best paper presentation at the iACT-2017 conference, ISA Bangalore.

Research Experience

BioRobotics Group, Manipal (link)

Manipal Institute of Technology, KA

Co-Founder August 2018 - Present

Neuromechanical and neuromuscular controllers for a Humanoid:

Developing controllers for COMAN* using Central Pattern Generators (CPG) and virtual muscles.

ROS Package for the Pleurobot:

Developing a ROS Package for the Pluerobot (BioRob, EPFL) with CPGs.

Tutorials for ROS and Robotics:

Created tutorials to teach ROS, and Gazebo using a linear inverted pendulum model.

BIOROB (link)

Prof. Auke Jan Ijspeert, Dr. Hamed Razavi

École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne

May 2018 - July 2018

Simulation Platform for the COMAN Robot †:

Simulate systemic integrations of complex interactions with compliant robots.

- * Developed simulators with OROCOS-RTT and ROS. (Simulation Packages)
- * Tested continuum of gaits (Video) and simulated the robot carrying a stretcher.

Neuromechanical framework to study animal locomotion ‡:

Simulator to conduct gait analysis of modular tetrapoda models with analysis tools.

* Developed a simulator for lesion studies on tetrapods and designed a CPG based controller.

Outcome: Worked with various robotics frameworks, performed gait analysis, designed a single controller for modular tetrapods. Implemented real time analysis tools and graphs: PyQt, NetworkX, matplotlib with custom GUI.

Autonomous Robotics Lab (link)

Dr.Sudipto Mukherjee

Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi

May 2017 - Jan 2018

Underactuated Flexible Manipulator using Differential Flatness:

Design a flexible manipulator on MATLAB with just 2 non-colinear forces acting as input.

* Implemented a flat controller for a planar manipulator with trajectory tracking. (video)

Outcome: Conducted extensive research on differentially flat orthotic and prosthetic devices.

^{*}COmpliant HuMANoid robot

[†]This work is supported by the Horizon 2020 Work Programme. (https://cogimon.eu/)

[‡]This work is supported by the Human Frontier Science Program (HFSP). (Gain access to this repo)

Mars Rover Manipal (link)

Robotic Arm Lead, Research Lead, Mechanical Member

2015 - 2017

Development of a Mars Rover Prototype:

Developed a Mars Rover for the URC, UT - 2017 and stood 8th. (URC-2017).

- * Designed the suspension, robotic arm, autonomous system & control architecture.
- * Presented the Rover at various conferences. (Critical Design Review) [1]

Robotic Arm Lead:

Supervised a team of 6 researchers to develop a compliant 6DOF Manipulator for the Rover.

- * The arm has a 6kg payload and a 1.5m reach.
- * Self adapting gripper to perform screwing, grasping, retrieving, etc tasks. [2–4]

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant

Manipal Institute of Technology, KA

Manipal Institute of Technology, KA

MTE-3003, MTE-2211

Jan 2017 - Nov 2018

Robot Dynamics and Control (MTE-3003):

Taught senior undergraduates (class of 35 students) ROS and evaluated final research project.

* Modified the course plan to teach robot dynamics through simulations. (Lab repo)

CAD & Kinematics Lab (MTE-2211):

Taught and evaluated 3D kinematic models of 81 students.

PROJECTS

- Obstacle detection and path planning using computer vision and fuzzy logic.
- Traffic Detection using a Kalman Filter.
- LQR based control of a 3-link Linear Inverted Pendulum on a cart (LIP).

TECHNICAL SKILLS AND COURSES

Programming C/C++, Python, C#, MATLAB, Simulink, Embedded C, Arduino, AVR, HTML, CSS, JS, IATEX

Robotics Software ROS, OROCOS, GazeboSim, MOVEit

CAD & CAM ANSYS Mechanical Workbench, ADAMS, Soliworks, CATIA V6, AutoCAD, Blender

Please refer to my course curriculum for reference. (Mechatronics Course Plan)

Publications and Presentations

- [1] Rajamani, D. K., Pitchika E. D., Dhankar K. S., Shorewala S., Bansal D., & Upadhyaya Y. S.(n.d.). Design Overview of a Planetary Exploration Rover for Unstructured Terrain. 3rd International and 18th National Conference on Machines & Mechanisms.
- [2] Rajamani, D. K., Pitchika E. D., Dhankar K. S., & Upadhyaya Y. S. Design and development of a linear jawed gripper for unstructured environments. Manipal Journal of Science and Technology 3, no. 1 (June 2018). [link]
- [3] Rajamani, D. K., Pitchika E. D., Dhankar K. S., & Upadhyaya Y. S. Design and Development of a Linear Jawed Gripper for Unstructured Environments. International Conference on Applied Sciences, Engineering & Technology. (ISBN: 978-93-5279-058-6)
- [4] Rajamani, D. K., & Dhankar, K. S., Upadhyaya & Y. S.(n.d.). A comparative Analysis of Industrial Grade Parallel Gripper and Linear Grippers. ISAB Industrial Automation and Control TechEvent Day, ISA Bangalore. (Best Paper Award)