

A photograph of the ETH Zurich main building, featuring a large, ornate dome and classical architectural details, set against a blue sky with some clouds.

Spring 2019

Mobile Robots | Introduction and Lecture Overview

Autonomous Mobile Robots

https://online.ethz.ch/courses/course-v1:ETH+AMRx_FS2019+2019_T1/about

Roland Siegwart, Margarita Chli, Nick Lawrence

Autonomous mobile robot | your teachers



- Roland Siegwart, ETH Zurich



Margarita Chli, ETH Zurich



- Nick Lawrance ETH Zurich

Video segments



- Marco Hutter, ETH Zurich



Davide Scaramuzza, Univ. of Zürich



- Paul Furgale, Facebook Oculus Zurich



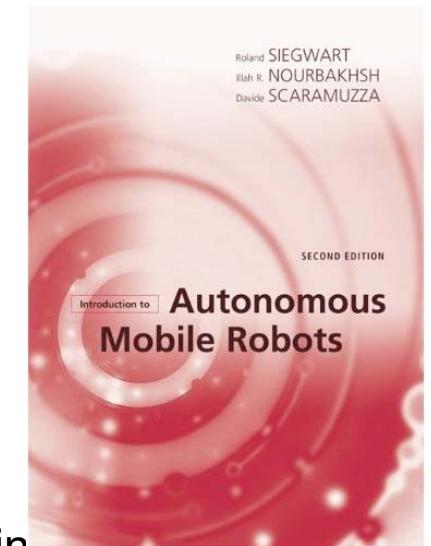
Martin Rufli, IBM Research



Autonomous mobile robot | about the course

https://online.ethz.ch/courses/course-v1:ETH+AMRx_FS2019+2019_T1/about

- Running as an ETH-internal MOOC (Massive Open Online Course)
 - Over 30 short video lectures that we call “segments”.
 - The “segments” are complemented with:
 - short questions for each segment to verify your understanding and progress
 - various exercises (problem sets)
 - videos showing the current state-of-the-art in the field
 - Please register
https://online.ethz.ch/courses/course-v1:ETH+AMRx_FS2019+2019_T1/about
- Textbook
„Introduction to Autonomous Mobile Robots“ **On sale in LEE J206 for CHF 45**
Roland Siegwart, Illah Nourbakhsh, Davide Scaramuzza, The MIT Press
- Other materials
 - http://www.asl.ethz.ch/education/lectures/autonomous_mobile_robots/spring_2019.html



The Lecture

- We expect you to view and study the following elements beforehand:
 - **video segment**
 - **relevant AMR book chapters**
 - **problem sets and quizzes**
- Lecture on Tuesday 10:15 – 12:00 in NO C 60
 - We want your active participation!!
 - Video Segments will not be repeated
 - Focus on putting the learnt content into context
 - Questions from students (in forum until Friday before the related lecture)
 - go over difficult problems
 - go a bit more in detail where needed (e.g. proofs of theorems, etc.)
- Exercises on Tuesday 14:15 – 16:00 in CAB G 11 (around every second week)
 - Special exercises only supported for ETH students

Lecture Program

ETH Master Course
Autonomous Mobile Robots - 151-0854-00L

Agenda Spring 2019

Lecture Weekly on Tuesday 10.15 - 12.00, NO C 60

Exercises: Approximately every second week, Tuesday 14.15 - 16.00, CAB G 11

MOOC: https://online.ethz.ch/courses/course-v1:ETH+AMRx_FS2019+2019_T1/about

ETHzürich



Responsible MOOC:

Margarita Grinvald <margarita.grinvald@mavt.ethz.ch>; Michel Breyer <michel.breyer@mavt.ethz.ch>

Week #	Date	Topic	Lecture segment names	Lecturer	Online release date and problem set	Number worked exercises	Problem set (yes/no)	Problem set due date
1.	19.02.2019	Introduction and Motivation	Introduction and Lecture Overview	Roland Siegwart	13.02.2019			
2.	26.02.2019	Locomotion Concepts	Introduction to Legged Robotics Basics of Rigid Body Kinematics Application of Rigid Body Kinematics (optional) <i>Worked Exercise 1 & 2 (optional)</i> Example of Wheeled, legged and Flying Robots (lecture)	Marco Hutter	20.02.2019	2	optional	02.03.2019
	Ex1 26.02.2019	Introduction to V-Rep simulator		In Kyu Sa, Karen Bodie	20.02.2019			
	3. 05.03.2019	Mobile Robots Kinematics	Introduction to Wheeled Locomotion Differential Kinematics Wheeled Kinematics <i>Worked Exercise</i>	Roland Siegwart	27.02.2019	1	yes	09.03.2019
	4. 12.03.2019	Perception I (to 4.3)	Sensors IMU GPS Motion Capture systems Laser range finder RGB/D/time-of-flight/sonar	Roland Siegwart	06.03.2019		no	
	5. 19.03.2019	Perception II (to 4.4)	Camera Image Formation, Perspective Projection Introduction to Computer Vision Omnidirectional Projection, Camera Calibration, Unified Model Stereo Vision <i>Worked Example: Structure from Motion</i>	Margarita Chil	13.03.2019		yes	23.03.2019
	Ex2 19.03.2019	Kinematics and Control of a differential drive vehicle		Anurag Vempati, Max Brunner	13.03.2019			
	6. 26.03.2019	Perception III: Image Saliency (to 4.5)	Correlation and Convolution Edges and Points <i>Worked Example on Image Filtering</i>	Margarita Chil	20.03.2019	1	yes	30.03.2019
	7. 02.04.2019	Perception IV: Place Recognition & Line Fitting (to 4.5)	Place Recognition The Error Propagation Law Line Extraction	Margarita Chil	27.03.2019		yes	06.04.2019
	Ex3 02.04.2019	Line extraction		Hermann Blum, Lukas Bernreiter	27.03.2019			
	Quiz 1	Quiz 1		Margarita Grinvald, Michel Breyer	02.04.2019			16.04.2019
	8. 09.04.2019	Localization I (to 5.2)	Introduction to Map-Based Localization Refresher on Probability Theory	R. Siegwart	03.04.2019		yes	13.04.2019
	9. 16.04.2019	Localization II	The Markov Approach The Kalman Filter Approach	R. Siegwart	10.04.2019		yes	20.04.2019
	Ex4 16.04.2019	Line-based Extended Kalman Filter		Hermann Blum, Lukas Bernreiter	10.04.2019			
	23.04.2019	Week off - Easter Holiday						
	10. 30.04.2019	SLAM I	The SLAM problem	M. Chil	24.04.2019		no	
	11. 07.05.2019	SLAM II	Monocular SLAM and beyond <i>Worked Example on SLAM</i>	M. Chil	01.05.2019	1	yes	11.05.2019
	Ex5 07.05.2019	EKF SLAM		Thomas Schneider, Florian Tschopp	01.05.2019			
	12. 14.05.2019	Planning I (to 6.2)	Introduction Collision Avoidance Potential Field Methods <i>Worked Example on Harmonic Potential Fields</i>	Nick Lawrence	08.05.2019	1	yes	18.05.2019
	13. 21.05.2019	Planning II (to 6.3)	Graph Construction Graph Search <i>Worked Example on A*</i>	Nick Lawrence	15.05.2019	1	yes	25.05.2019
	Ex6 21.05.2019	Dijkstra's algorithm and the dynamic window		Daniel Dugas, Rik Bähnemann	15.05.2019			
	Quiz 2	Quiz 2		Margarita Grinvald, Michel Breyer	21.05.2019			04.06.2019
	14. 28.05.2019	Summary	Summary	Roland Siegwart	22.05.2019		no	

Exam

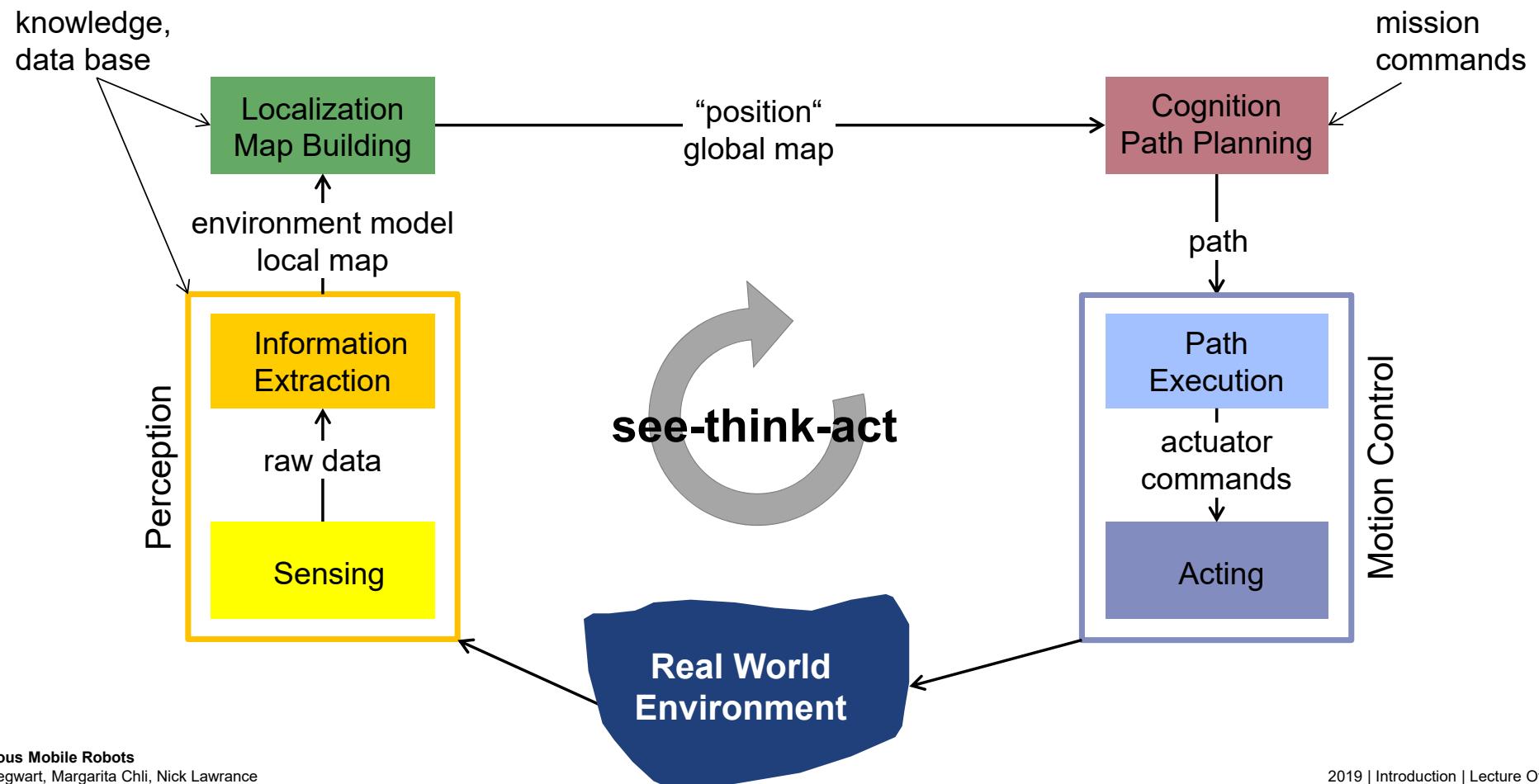
- Type
 - Written session examination
- Language of examination
 - English
- Course attendance confirmation required
 - No
- Repetition
 - The performance assessment is only offered in the session after the course unit.
Repetition only possible after re-enrolling.
- Mode of examination
 - Multiple Choice and comprehension questions
 - Calculations, similar to exercises, but simpler and solvable without computer
- Written aids
 - 4 A4-pages personal summary

Autonomous mobile robot | the key questions

- The three key questions in Mobile Robotics
 - Where am I ?
 - Where am I going ?
 - How do I get there ?
- To answer these questions the robot has to
 - have a model of the environment (given or autonomously built)
 - perceive and analyze the environment
 - find its position/situation within the environment
 - plan and execute the movement



Autonomous mobile robot | the see-think-act cycle

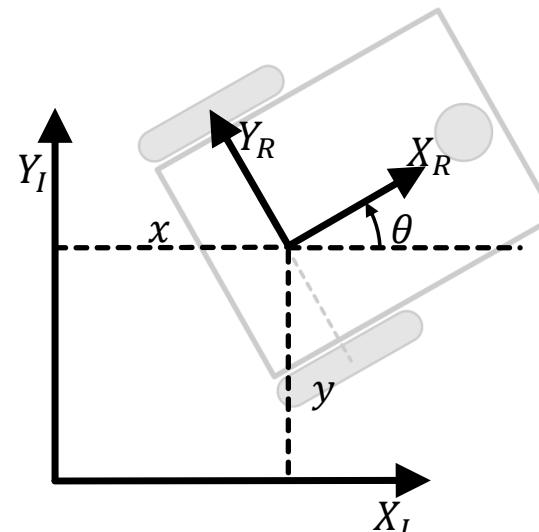
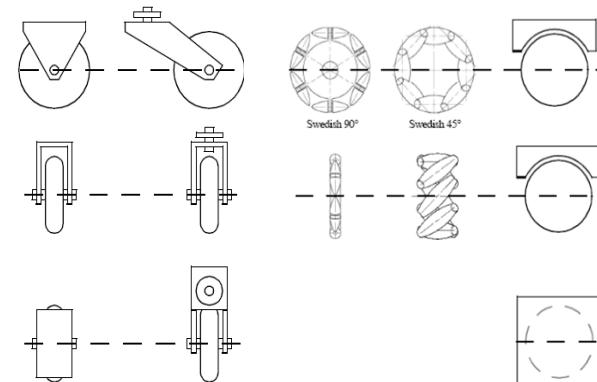


Motion Control | kinematics and motion control

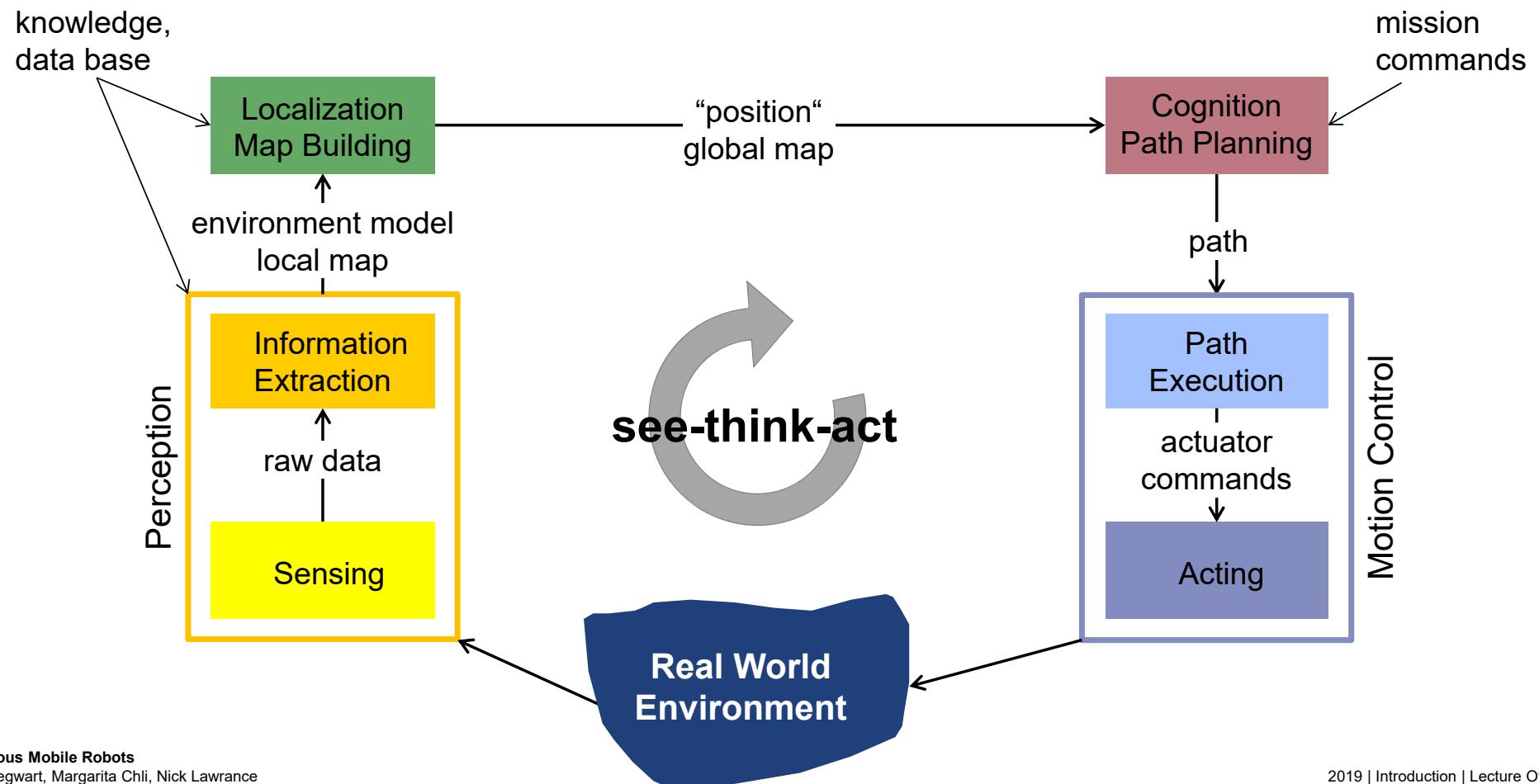
- Wheel types and its constraints
 - Rolling constraint
 - no-sliding constraint (lateral)
- Motion control

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \\ \dot{\theta} \end{bmatrix} = f(\dot{\phi}_1 \cdots \dot{\phi}_n, \theta, \text{geometry})$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\phi}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \dot{\phi}_n \end{bmatrix} = f(\dot{x}, \dot{y}, \dot{\theta})$$
?

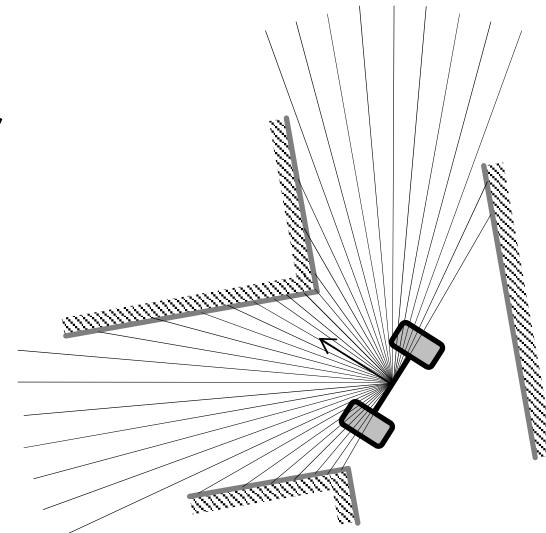


Autonomous mobile robot | the see-think-act cycle

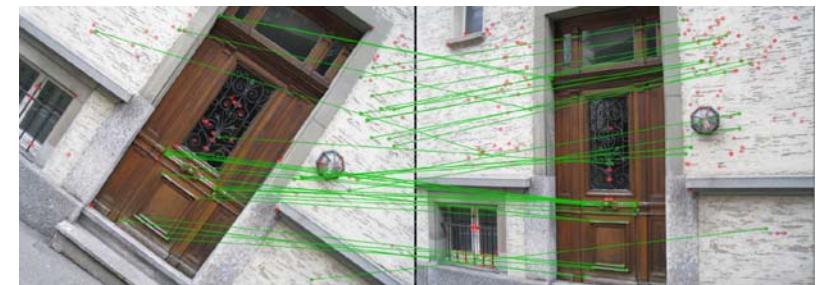
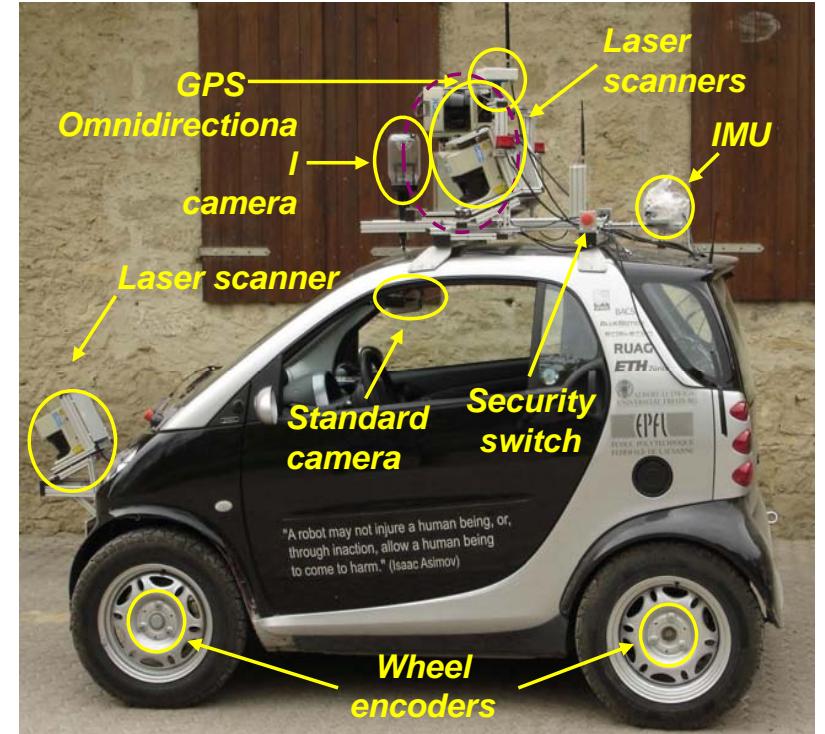
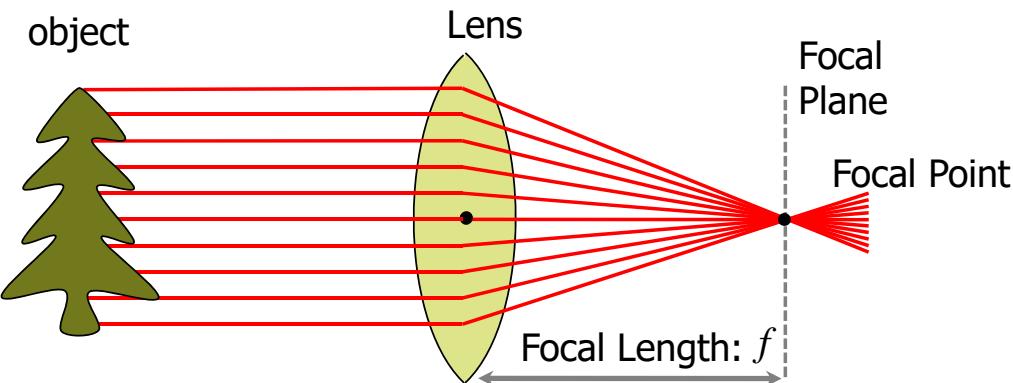


Perception | sensing

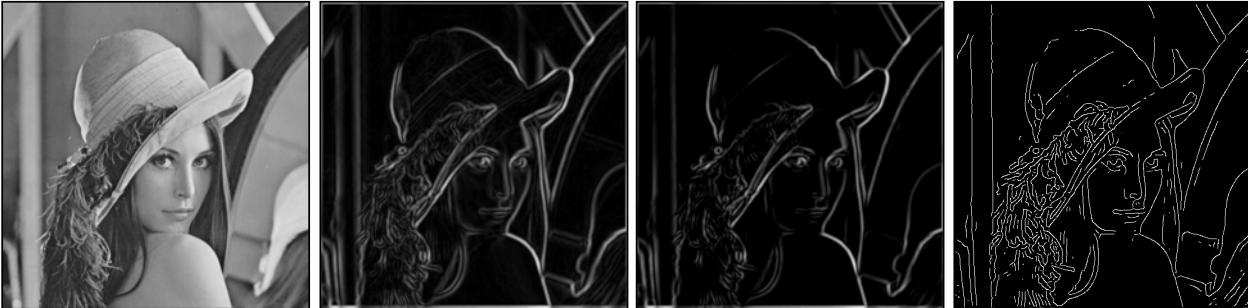
- Laser scanner
 - time of flight



- Camera



Perception | information extraction

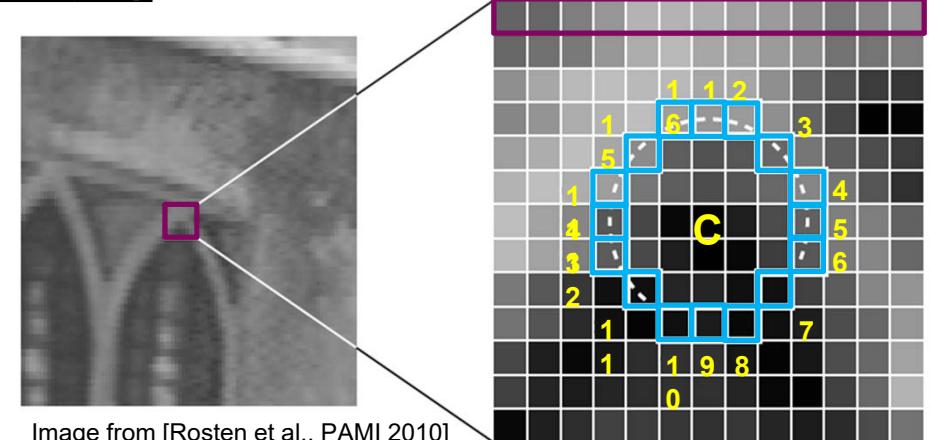


- Keypoint Features
 - features that are reasonably invariant to rotation, scaling, viewpoint, illumination
 - FAST, SURF, SIFT, BRISK, ...



Autonomous Mobile Robots
Roland Siegwart, Margarita Chi, Nick Lawrance

- Filtering / Edge Detection



- Keypoint matching
 - BRISK example



Virtual and Augmented Reality (VR / AR) on your Smartphone



Spinoff
ETHzürich



Autonomous Mobile Robots
Roland Siegwart, Margarita Chli, Nick Lawrance



Collaborative Visual-Inertial Navigation | *teach and repeat*

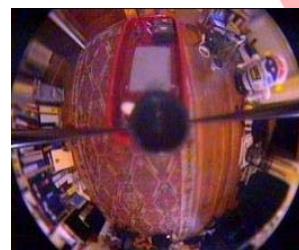
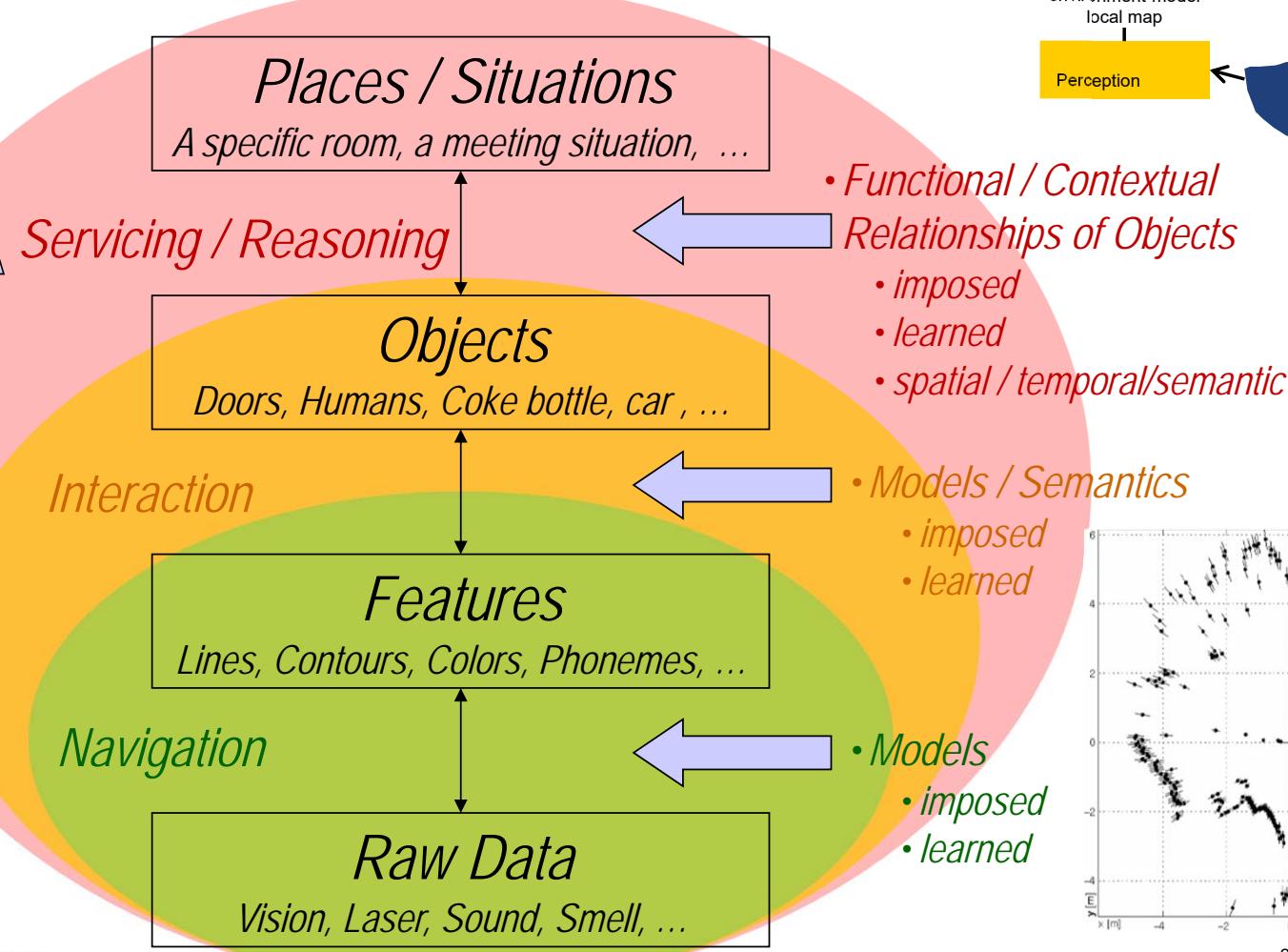


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pDIQxsOrgI4>

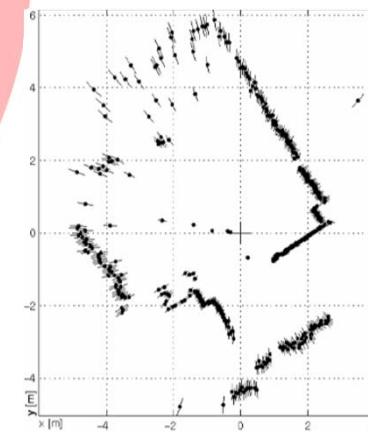
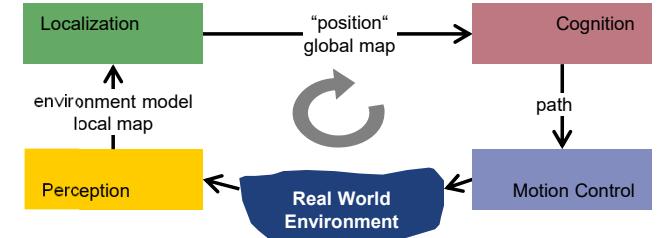
From Perception to Understanding



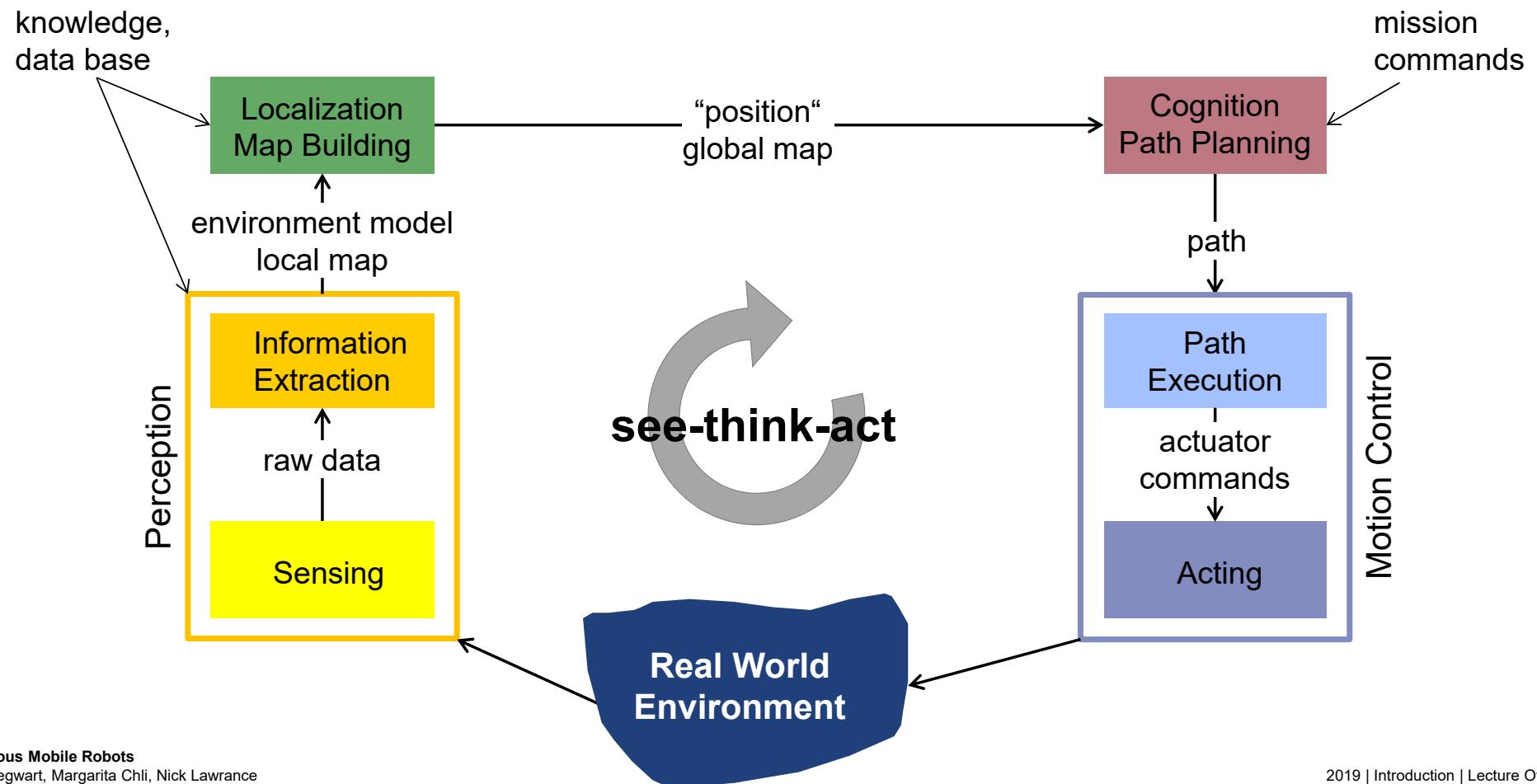
Fusing & Compressing Information



Autonomous Mobile Robots
Roland Siegwart, Margarita Chli, Nick Lawrence

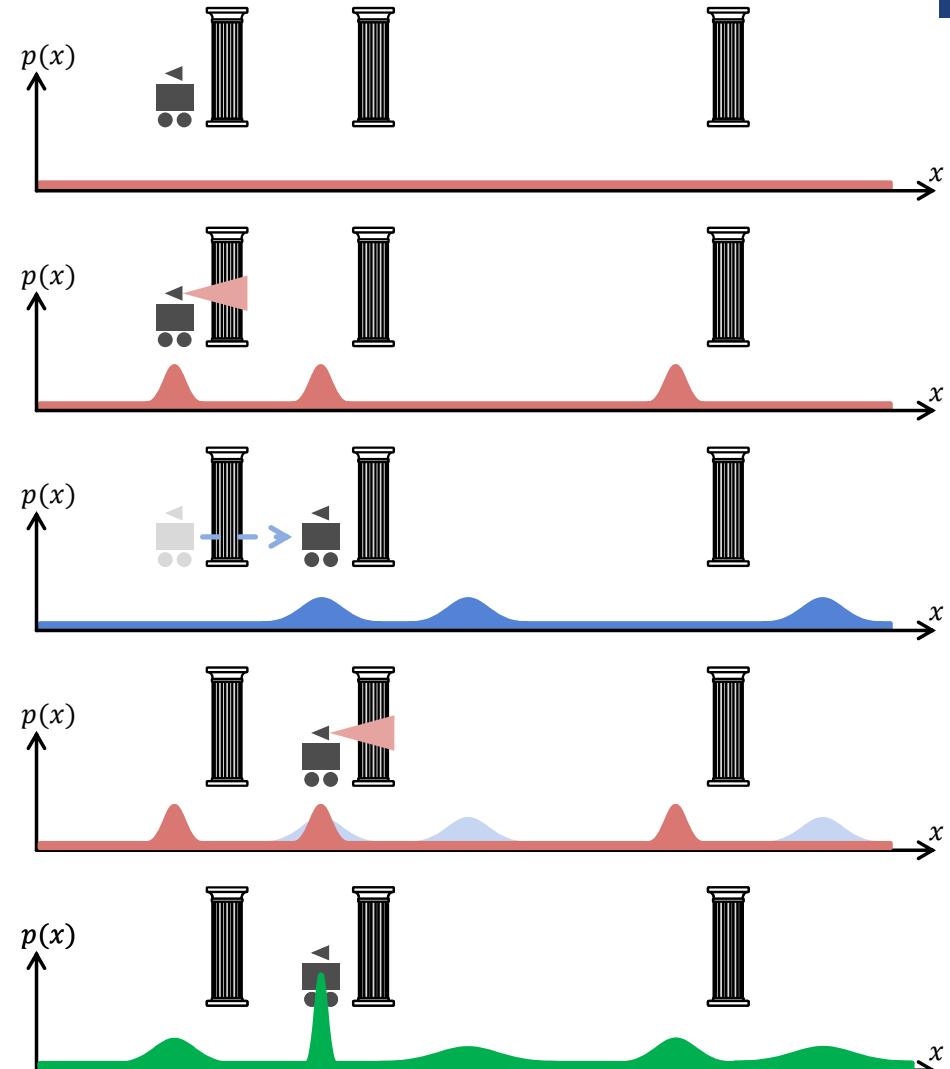


Autonomous mobile robot | the see-think-act cycle

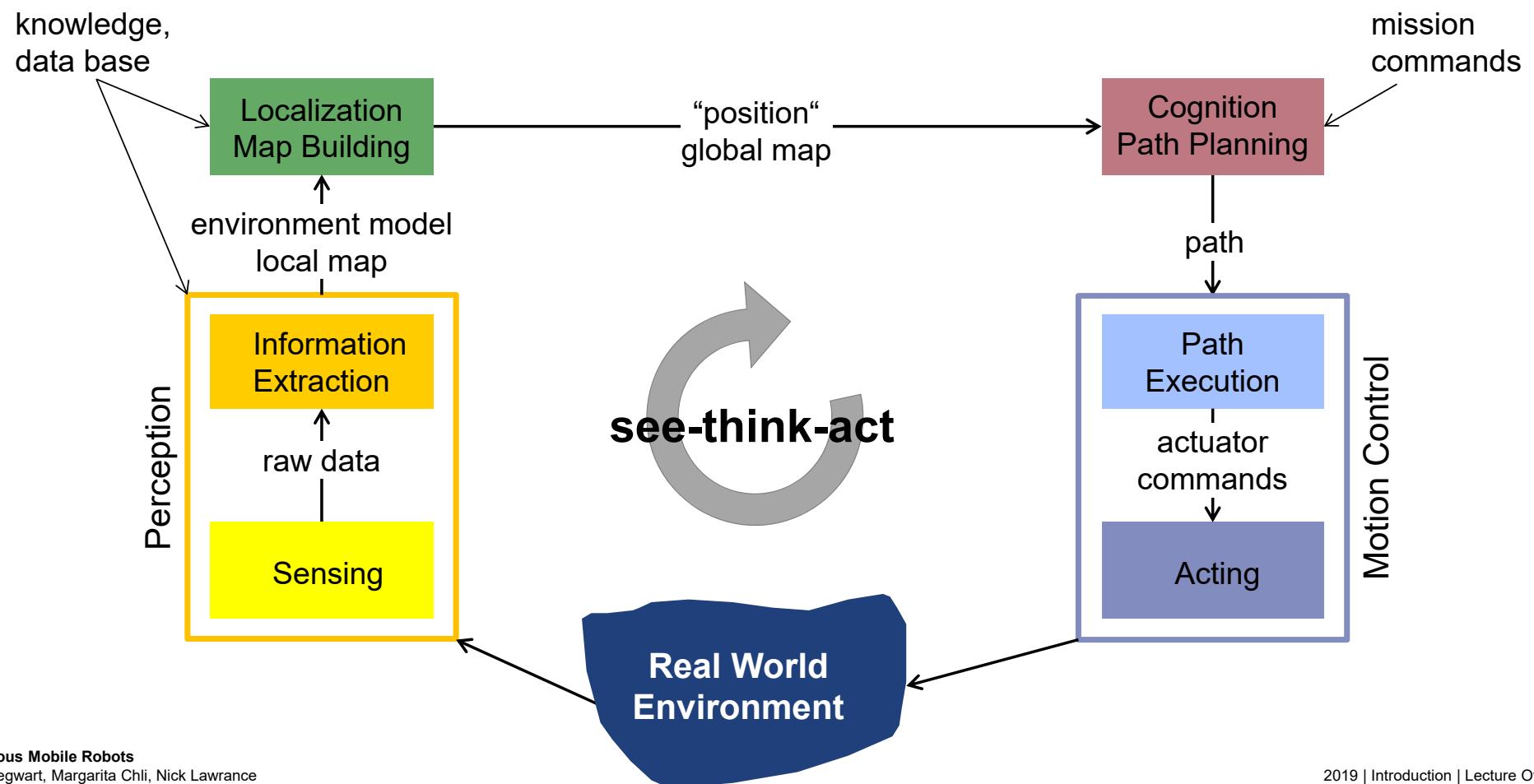


Localization | where am I?

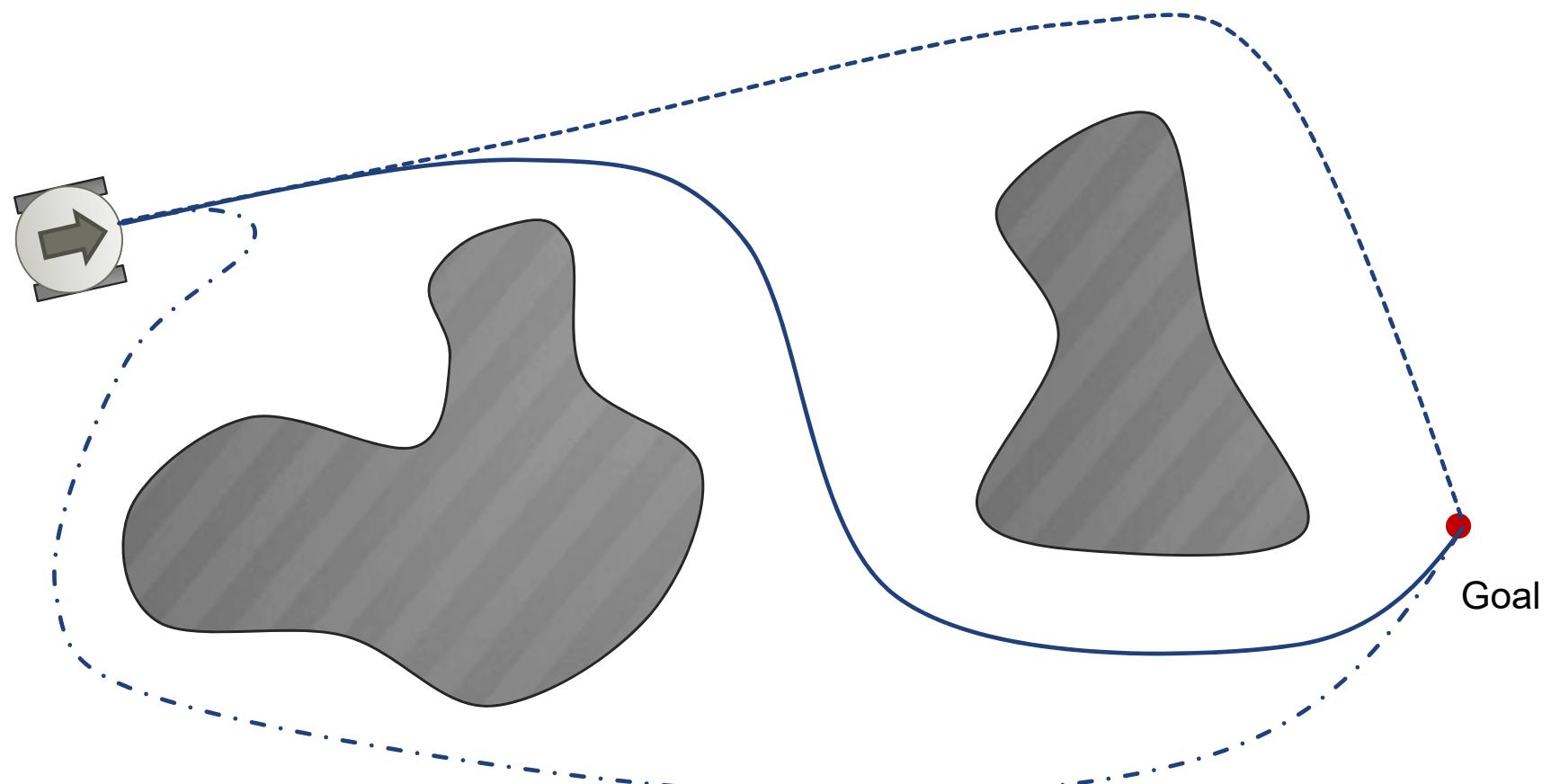
- SEE: The robot queries its sensors
→ finds itself next to a pillar
- ACT: Robot moves one meter forward
 - motion estimated by wheel encoders
 - accumulation of uncertainty
- SEE: The robot queries its sensors again → finds itself next to a pillar
- Belief update (information fusion)



Autonomous mobile robot | the see-think-act cycle

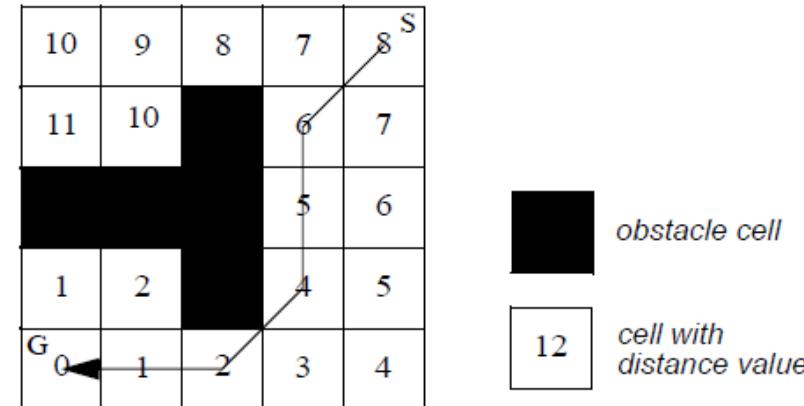


Cognition | Where am I going ? How do I get there ?

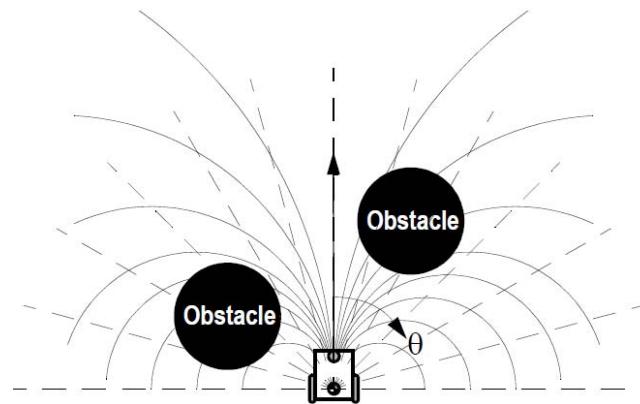


Cognition | Where am I going ? How do I get there ?

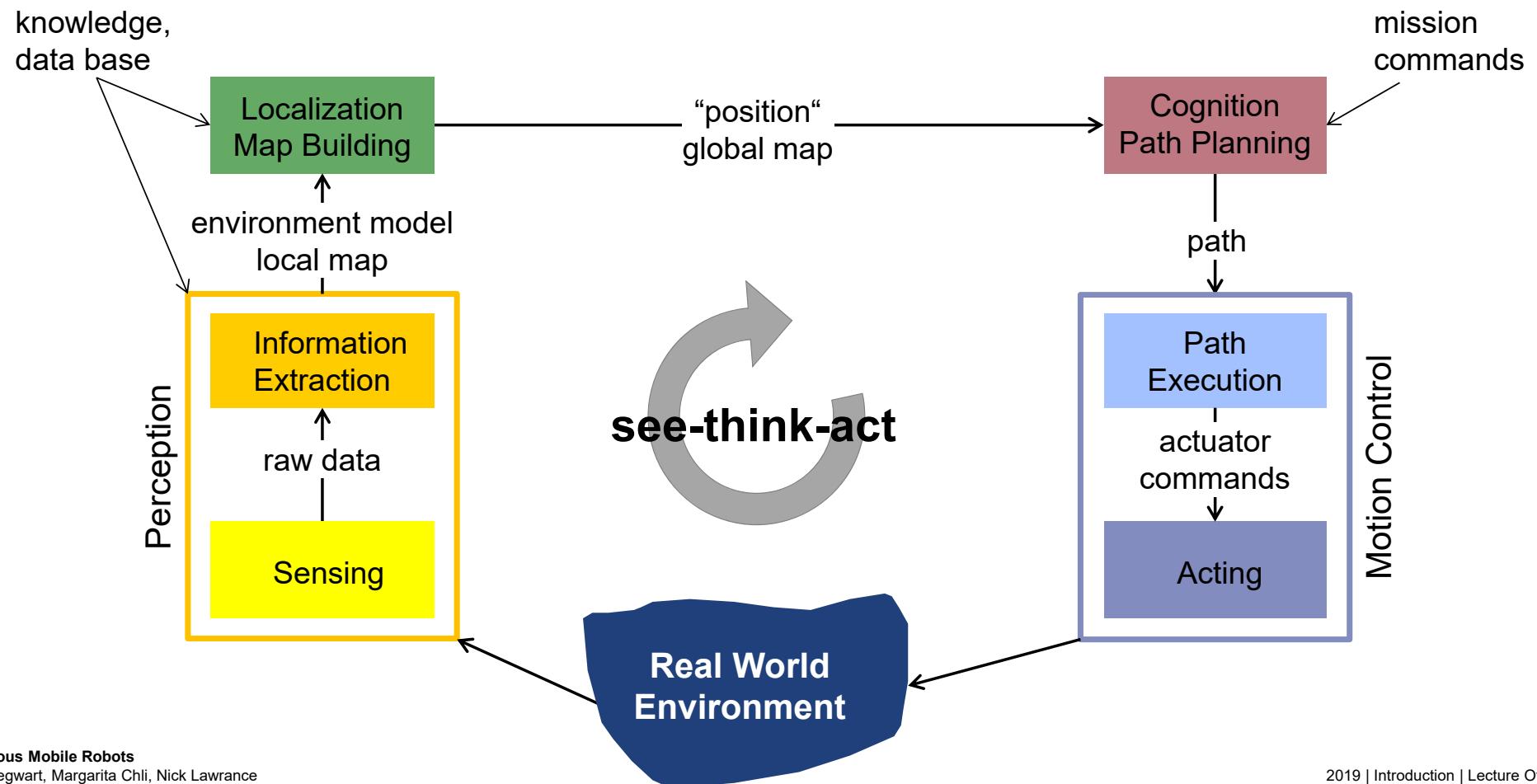
- Global path planning
 - Graph search



- Local path planning
 - Local collision avoidance

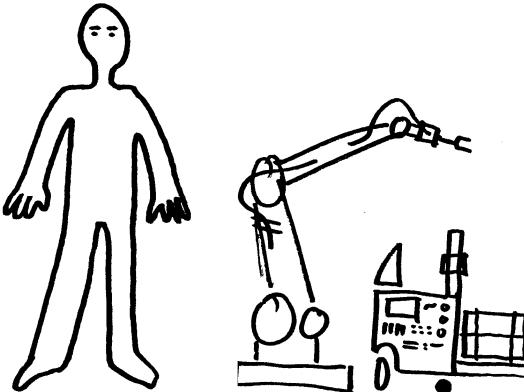


Autonomous mobile robot | the see-think-act cycle

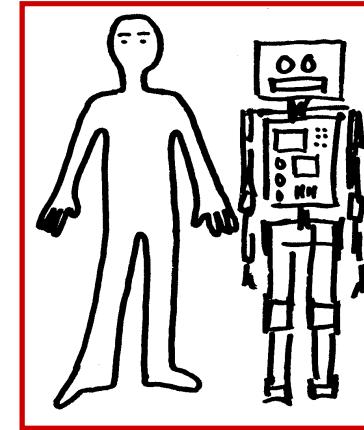


Next generation of Robots

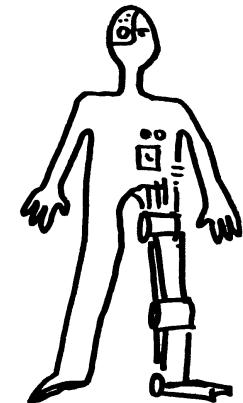
| mobile, smart, connected, adaptive and closer to humans



Industrial Robots



Service Robots



Cyborgs



Autonomous Mobile Robots
Roland Siegwart, Margarita Chi, Nick Lawrance



Boston Dynamics



Robotics | challenges and technology drivers

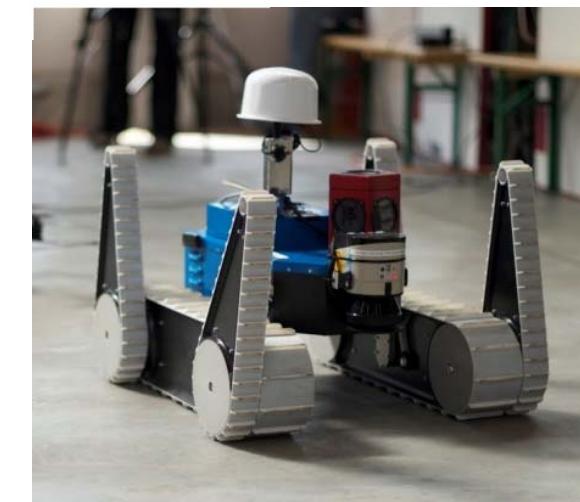
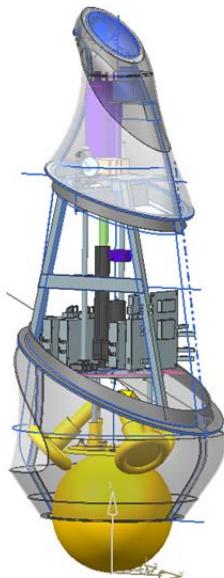
- The challenges
 - **Seeing, feeling** and **understanding** the world
 - Dealing with **uncertain** and **partially available** information
 - **Act** appropriately onto the environment
- Technology drivers
 - | *technology evolutions enable robotics revolutions*
 - Laser time-of-flight sensors
 - Cameras and IMUs combined with required calculation power
 - Torque controlled motors, “soft” actuation
 - New materials



Willow
Garage

Autonomous Mobile Robots | Some recent examples

Examples – not part of MOOC Video Segment



Autonomous mobile robot | we invite you to join the course



EUROPA:
The European Robotic Pedestrian Assistant



ETH
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich



KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT
LEUVEN
BlueBotics
Mobile Robots at your Service



https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=4&v=M4CQ7VW7iZ0

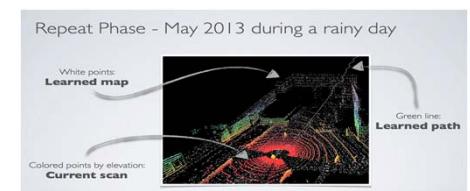
Today | 3D laser sensors



Expensive, complex and cumbersome

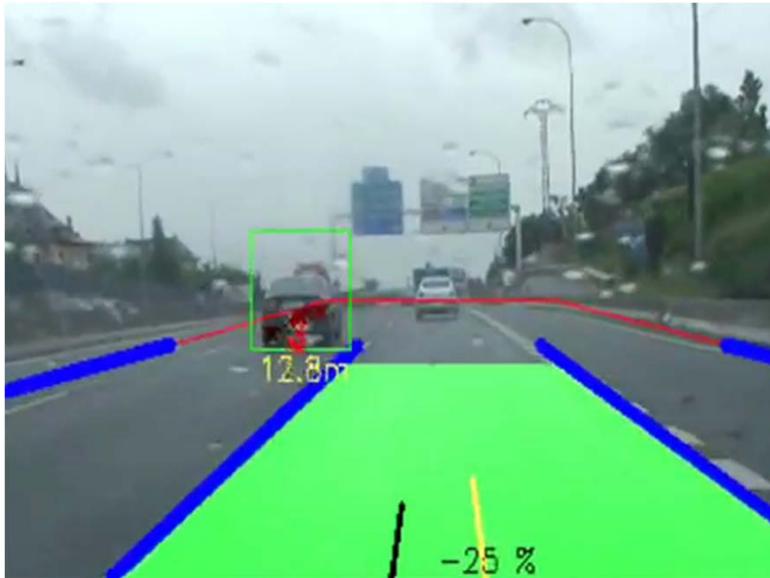


- Google Self-Driving Car Project (status summer 2015)
 - > 20 vehicles in use
 - > 2.7 mio km, 1.5 mio km in autonomous mode
 - > 11 accidents
 - No people insured
 - Non of them caused by car control algorithm



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eJCR2TaeSFc>

Today | cameras (lane tracking, ...)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JmxDluCIlcg>

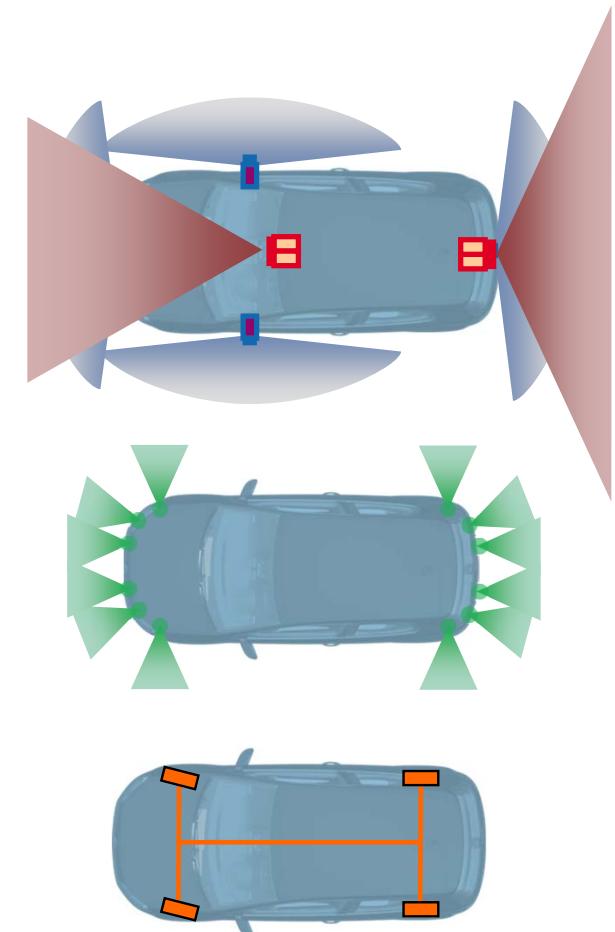


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aGW4nRzx8lw>

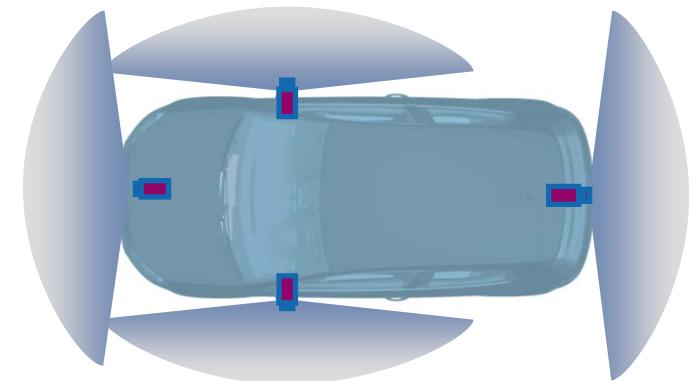


- Detection and tracking of
 - Lanes
 - Street signs
 - Other cars
-

V-Charge | Autonomous driving using close-to-market sensors



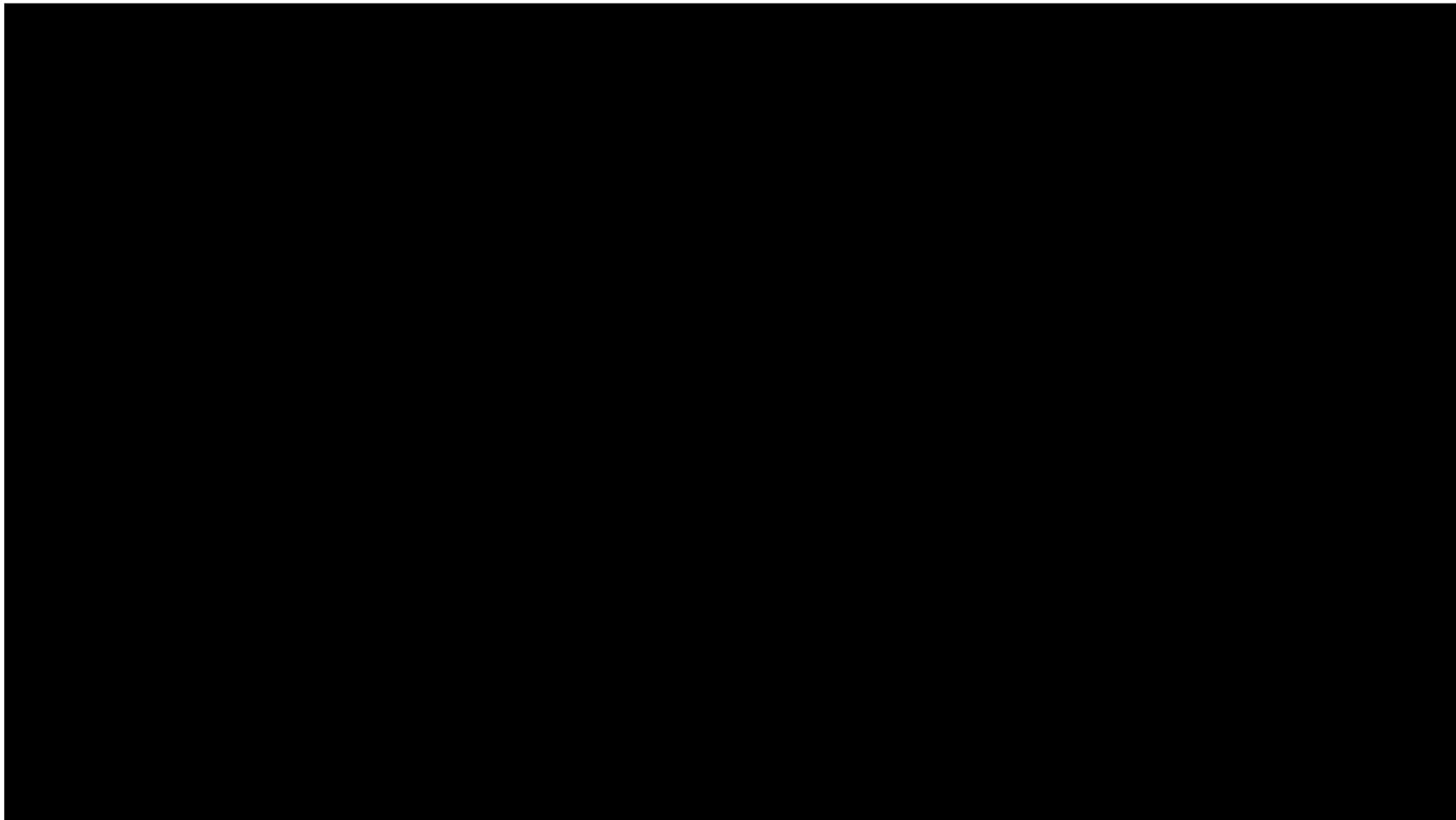
V-Charge | Autonomous driving using close-to-market sensors



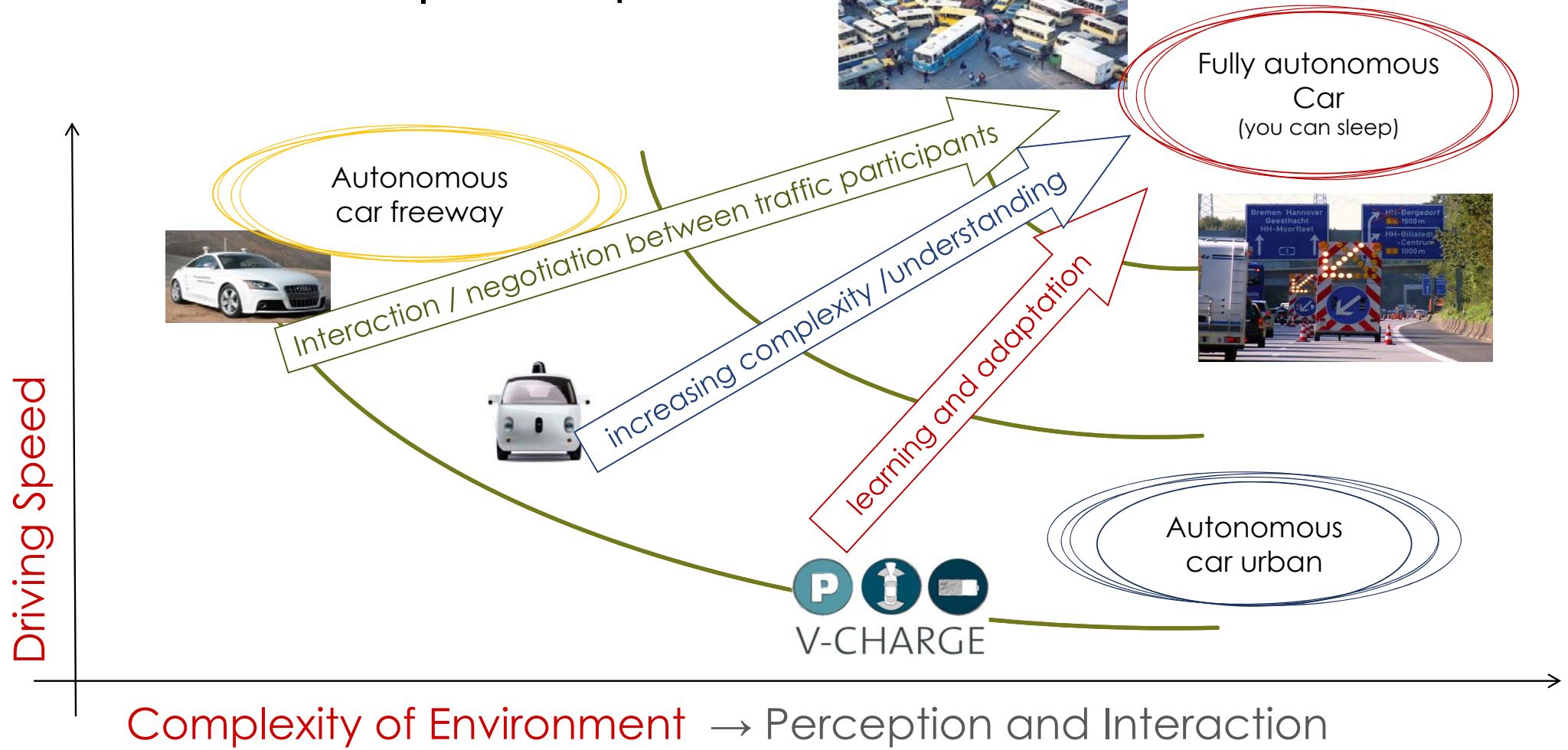
Typical Situation



V-Charge Review 2 | Driving Demo



Autonomous Cars | roadmap



V-Charge | the ultimate vision

- Mixed-traffic scenarios

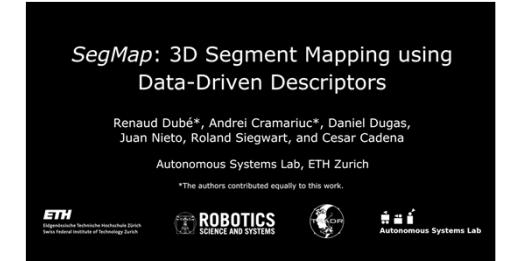
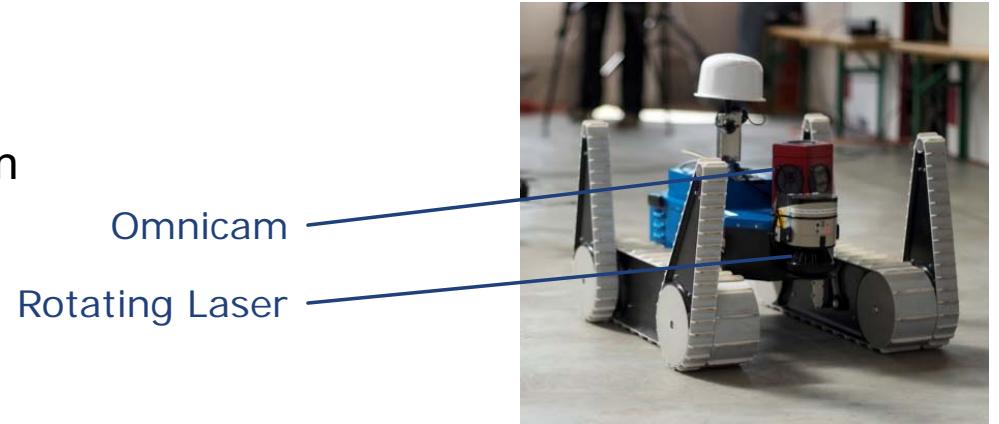


NIFTi / TRADR – Urban Search and Rescuing



- Project goals
 - Robotic help for Urban Search and Rescue
 - UGV and UAV combined for scene exploration
 - Yearly evaluation of system by firemen

- Environment modeling
 - Online 3D mapping from laser sensor
 - Based on enhanced ICP released open-source
 - Topological segmentation for human-robot interaction



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CMk4w4eRobg>

Vision only UAV navigation

www.sfly.ethz.ch/



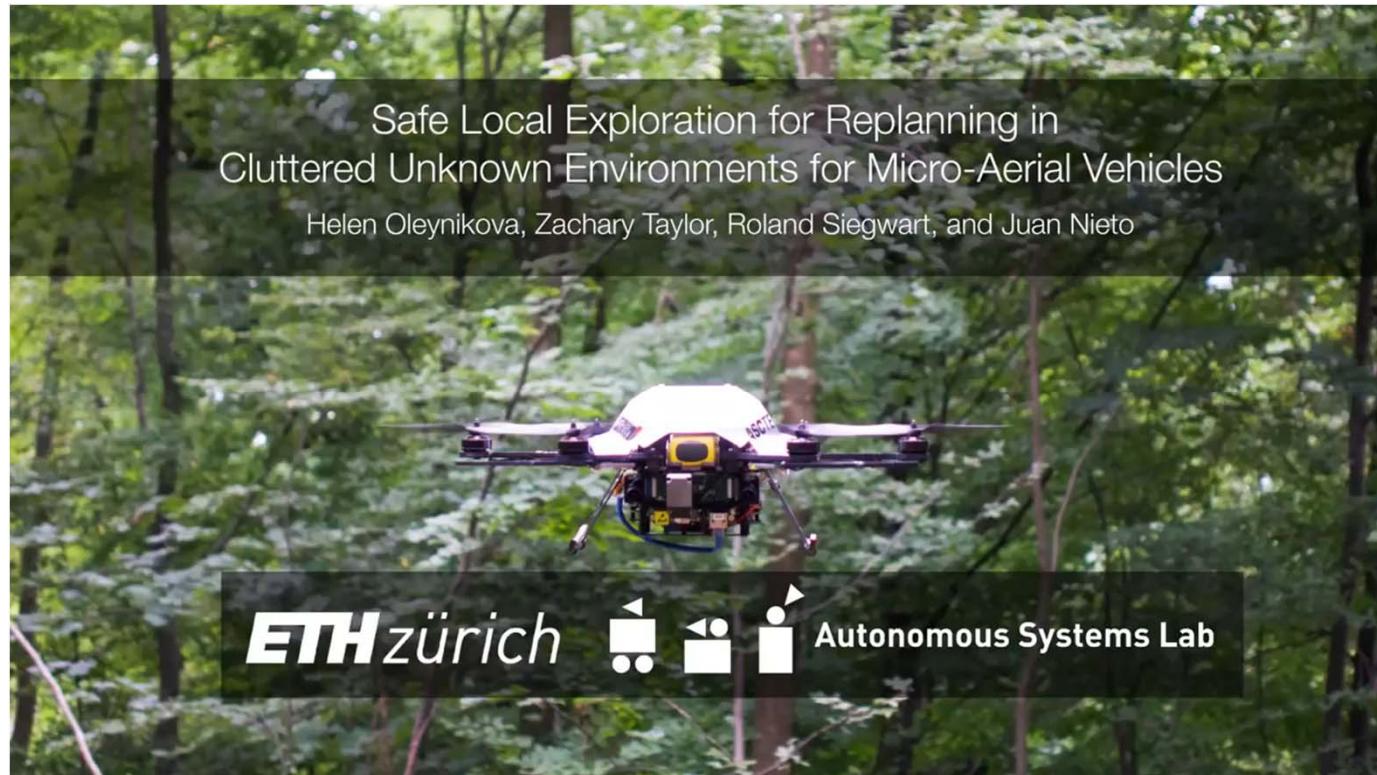
- Swarm of small helicopters
 - Vision only navigation (one camera, GPS denied)
 - Fully autonomous with on-board computing
 - Feature based visual SLAM



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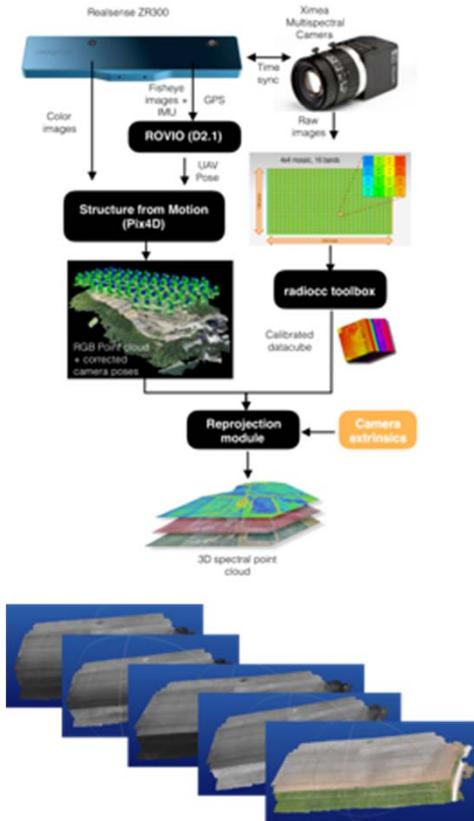
Navigation & Planning in Cluttered Environments



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rAJwD2kr7c0>

Flourish – Aerial Data Collection and Analysis, and Automated Ground Intervention for Precision Farming

Spatio-Temporal Spectral Environment Modeling

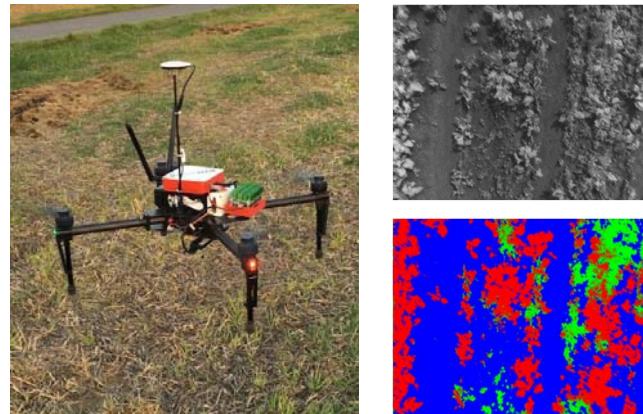


<https://youtu.be/5f1Etfw76Qc>

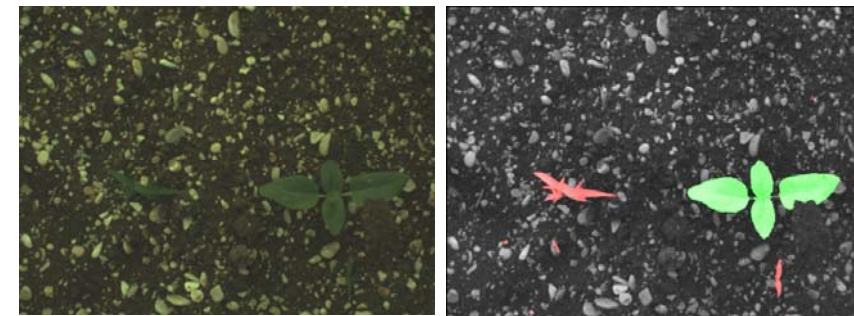
Autonomous UAV landing



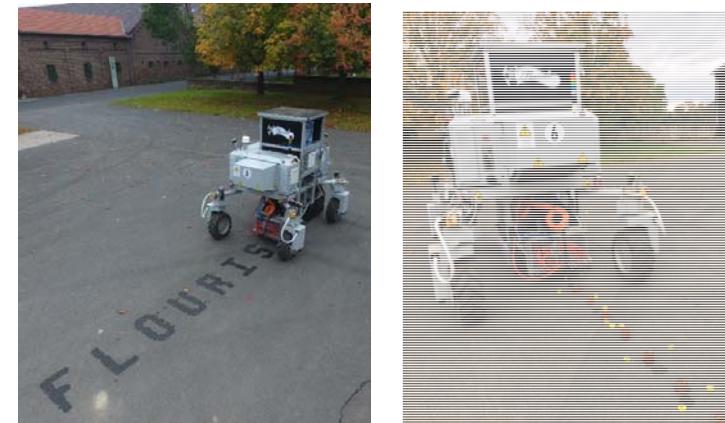
UAV onboard weed detection



Weed classification on UGV (Sunflower ~95% acc.)



Automated spraying and stamping



Collaborative Visual-Inertial Navigation

in collaboration with



Prof. Marco Hutter



ETHzürich



September 2015

Collaborative Navigation for Flying and Walking Robots

Péter Fankhauser, Remo Diethelm, Martin Wermelinger,
Thomas Schneider, Marcin Dymczyk, Michael Burri,
Michael Blösch, Dario Bellicoso, Christian Gehring,
Simon Lynen, Philipp Krüsi, Marco Hutter, Roland Siegwart



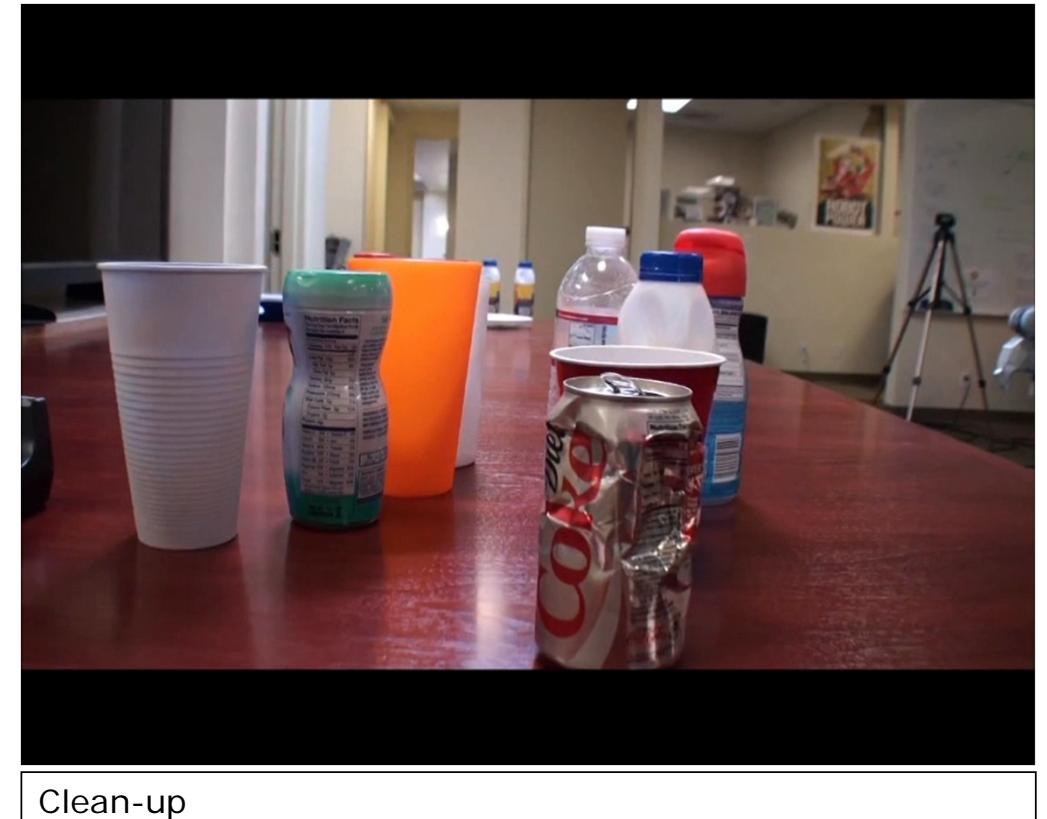
Autonomous Systems Lab

Beyond Mobility | PR2 robot from Willow Garage



Fold towels <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gy5g33S0Gzo>

Courtesy of



Clean-up

ETH Zurich | a melting pot for robotics, systems and control

Artificial Intelligence

Joachim Buhmann
Machine Learning Lab



Andreas Krause
Learning and Adaptive Systems



Otmar Hilliges
Advanced Interactive Technologies Lab



Autonomous Robots

Roland Siegwart
Autonomous Systems Lab



Marc Pollefeys
Computer Vision and Geometry Lab



Margarita Chli
Vision for Robotics Lab



Computer Vision

Luc van Gool
Computer Vision Laboratory



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Roger Gassert
Rehabilitation Engineering Lab



Simone Schürle
Responsive Biomedical Systems Lab



Medical /Biomedical Robotics

Brad Nelson
Multi-Scale Robotics Lab



Marco Hutter
Robotic Systems Lab



Emilio Frazzoli
Information and Decision Systems



Robert Riener
Sensor Motor Systems Lab



Melanie Zeilinger
Intelligent Control Systems



Maryam Kamgarpour
Automatic Control Lab



Automation and Control

John Lygeros
Automatic Control Lab



Florian Dörfler
Automatic Control Lab



Switzerland | a melting pot for robotics technology

Initiatives



Autonomous Mobile Robots
Roland Siegwart, Margarita Chli, Nick Lawrence

Spin-offs



Some Industrial Collaborations



... and Apple, Facebook and Microsoft, recently opened R&D labs in Zurich