MAYANK MITTAL

Graduate Student, ETH Zürich, Switzerland

E-mail: mayankm@iitk.ac.in Website: mayankm96.github.io

EDUCATION

2018-present Masters of Science, Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule (ETH), Zürich

Major: Robotics, Systems and Controls

2014–2018 Bachelor of Technology, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur, CGPA- 9.0/10

Major: Electrical Engineering

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

May '17-present Predicting Landing Sites from Aerial Images of Disaster Scenes

University of Freiburg, Prof. Wolfram Burgard

- o Created large synthetic dataset on Mircrosoft drone simulator AirSim comprising of scene, normals, segmentation and depth information of a map for disaster affected regions
- o Trained CNN model 'MarrRevisisted' proposed by Aayush B. et.al. on the created dataset for surface normals prediction and performed a qualitative and quantitative analysis of the results
- o Proposed pipelines for extracting candidate landing sites, using the trained model and input RGB-D data, based on histogram based segmentation and costmaps

Nov '14-present Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (AUV)

website github report

IIT Kanpur, Prof. Mangal Kothari & Prof. K.S. Venkatesh

- o Designed and developed Institute's first AUV, Varun, which uses computer vision and dead-reckoning sensors for navigation and is capable of shooting torpedo and drop markers
 - Optimized robot's structure and assemblies using SolidWorks and Ansys Workbench
 - Fabricated waterproof casings using in-house manufacturing facilities like lathe, milling
 - Designed power distribution board for the vehicle to ensure isolation between processor and motors, and also provide circuit protection
 - Formalized **experiment** to **calibrate thrusts** from vehicle's actuators to voltage signal
- o Currently mentoring the software subsystem team of our next vehicle, Triton

July '16-Mar '17 Bomb Disposal using Multi-Robot System

website Boeing-IIT Kanpur Joint Venture, Prof. Shantanu Bhattacharya & Prof. S. Kamle

- o Integrated various hardware into a custom two-wheeled differential drive robot, Alpha
- o Performed simulation of Alpha in gazebo environment for creating maps and navigation o Implemented and compared the results of RGBD-SLAM, ORB-SLAM, Gmapping, and Hector-SLAM
- o Implemented the **object detection model 'YOLOv2'** by Joseph Redmon *et al.* using ROS and Caffe framework to classify objects as potential explosives in real time

Major Course Projects

Feb-Apr '18 Survey on Variational Autoencoders (VAEs) for Bayesian Inference

Course Project for Probabilistic Modeling and Inferences (CS698X), under Prof. Piyush Rai

o Studied and implemented various recent developments in VAEs such as semi-amortized autoencoders, conditional VAEs, DRAW architecture

Feb-Apr '17 Visual Odometry using careful Feature Selection and Tracking

github Course Project for Probabilistic Robotics (EE698G), Prof. Gaurav Pandey

report o Implemented the algorithm for stereo odometry, adapted from the works of I. Cvišić and I. Petrović in 'Stereo odometry based on careful feature selection and tracking'

Mar-Apr '17 MATLAB based GUI for Motion Planning

github Course Project for Robot Motion Planning (ME766A), Prof. Ashish Dutta

o Created an interactive user interface on MATLAB to run a number of motion planning algorithms such as Rapidly exploring Random Tree (RRT) and its variants, and potential field method, in a user defined 2-D environment at specified start and goal points

Oct-Nov '16 Failure Handling in Swarm of Quadrotors

report Course Project for Embedded and Cyber-Physical Systems (CS637A), Prof. Indranil Saha

- o Proposed an extended state machine design for communication in a swarm, with ability to handle failures, while ensuring redundancy, decentralization and anonymity
- o Used gazebo to simulate swarm behavior in quadrotors using hector-quad packages

OTHER PROJECTS

- Oct-Nov '16 Applying \mathcal{H}_{∞} Control to Reduce Risks of Diabetes Mellitus in Patients Course Project for Robust Control Systems (EE654A), Prof. Ramprasad Potluri
- May–Jun '16 Review on Recent Approaches to Simultaneous Localization And Mapping

 NYU-IIT Kanpur Research Track, Prof. Farshad Khorrami (New York University)
- Feb-Mar '16 **Designing of Adjustable Medical Chair**Course Project for course Manufacturing Processes-II (TA202A), Prof. Neeraj Sinha
 - Dec '15 Review on Finite Element Analysis in Electromagnetism NPDE-TCA Winter Internship, Dr. B.V. Rathish Kumar (IIT Kanpur)

Teaching Experience

- Jan-Apr '18 Autonomous Navigation, AE640A, Prof. Mangal Kothari, IIT Kanpur
 - o Preparation of course material and assignments
 - o Guest lecturer on system integration using ROS, robot simulation, mathematical foundation for robotics, and non-parametric filters for localization

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2018 Science and Technology Excellence Award, IIT Kanpur
- 2017 Academic Excellence Award, IIT Kanpur (Dean's List)
- 2017 WISE Scholarship by DAAD (Awarded to 192 students in the country)
- 2016 Academic Excellence Award, IIT Kanpur (Dean's List)
- 2016 2nd place in Student Underwater Vehicle (SAVe) competition by NIOT, Chennai
- 2012 Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yogna (KVPY) Fellowship by Govt. of India
- 2010 National Talent Search Scholarship (NTSE) by Govt. of India

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Software: Gazebo, UnrealEngine Editor (AirSim), V-REP, SolidWorks, Ansys, KiCAD, PSpice

Languages: Python, C++, C, Shell(bash), MATLAB, HTML, CSS

Frameworks: ROS, Caffe, TensorFlow, OpenCV, PCL

Other: Git, GNU Octave, LATEX

Relevant Coursework

Robotics: Probabilistic Mobile Robotics, Robot Manipulators: Dynamics and Control, Robot

Motion Planning, Embedded and Cyber-Physical Systems, Robust Control Systems

Mathematics: Probabilistic Modeling and Inferences, Matrix Theory and Linear Estimation, Probability

and Statistics, Ordinary/Partial Differential Equations, Complex Analysis

Algorithms: Data Structures and Algorithms, Fundamentals of Programming

Electronics: Power Electronics, Digital Electronics, Microelectronics- I, Power Systems

Positions of Responsibility

Jan '16-Apr '18 **Team Leader**, AUV Team, IIT Kanpur

- o Leading a team of 16 members from various majors to develop our next underwater vehicle
- o Overseeing various operational and technical aspects of the project
- o Managed funding of Rs.769,000 for the development of our first vehicle Varun

Apr '16-Mar '17 Coordinator, Robotics Club, IIT Kanpur

- o Led a team of 18 members and handled a budget of Rs.125,000 to organize various events, workshops, and competitions for robotics enthusiasts in the campus community
- o **Mentored** and ensured completion of **summer projects** on facial recognition, 3-DOF robot manipulator, gesture-based gaming console, and Wi-Fi based indoor localization system
- o Organized a week-long lecture series in collaboration with the Institute's Center of Mechatronics; presented talks on sensing and actuation, micro-controllers and CAD designing

Aug '15-July '16 Student Guide & Academic Mentor, Counseling Service, IIT Kanpur

- o Assisted 6 freshmen students in adjusting to the college environment
- o Provided personal tutoring to academically weak students for their courses

Miscellaneous

- Oct '17 Conducted workshop on 'Robotics using ROS and Gazebo' at IIT Kanpur
- Sept '17 Presented a talk on 'Applications of Deep Learning in Robotics' for Machine Learning Research Day (MLRD) organized by SIGML, IIT Kanpur
- Oct '15 Secured 2^{nd} place in inter-college lawn tennis tournament at SNU, Greater Noida
- Mar '15 Secured 3^{rd} place at inter-college lawn tennis tournament at IIT, Roorkee