UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI BRESCIA FACOLTÀ DI INGEGNERIA





CORSO DI LAUREA IN INGEGNERIA INFORMATICA TESI DI LAUREA SPECIALISTICA

ANALISI DI FATTIBILITÀ ED IMPLEMENTAZIONE DI UN SISTEMA DI ROBOTICA COGNITIVA PER COMPITI DI NAVIGAZIONE

(Analysis of preconditions and implementation of a Cognitive Robotic System for navigation tasks)

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1.3.2. OpenCV

OpenCV, an abbreviation that stands for *Open Source Computer Vision*, is a computer vision library that was originally developed by Intel and, later on, by Willow Garage. It is a cross-platform library and is released under a BSD license, thus it is free and open source. It was originally developed in C and C++ and then was afterwards expanded by the addition of interfaces for Java and Python. OpenCV is designed for computational efficiency and with a strong focus on real-time applications. The version 2.4 has more than 2500 algorithms. The library has been used in many applications as, for example, mine inspection and robotics [Ope12b].

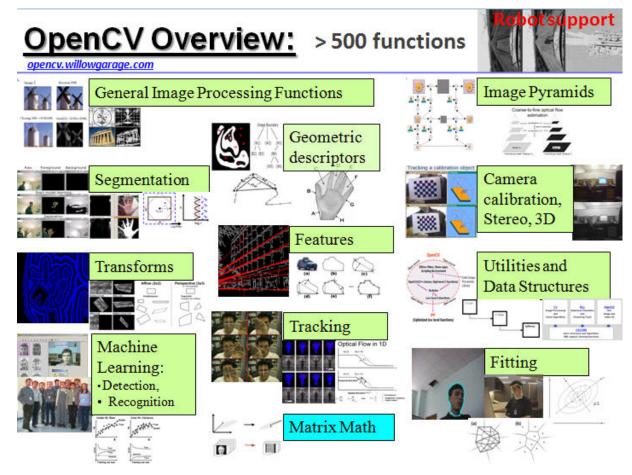
History

The OpenCV Project started in 1999 as an Intel Reasearch initiative aimed to improve CPU intensive applications as a part of projects including real-time ray tracing and 3D display walls. The early goals of the project were developing optimized code for basic vision infrastructure, spreading this infrastructure to developers, and making it portable and available for free without forcing the developers to create their applications for free. The first alpha version was released to the public in 2000, followed by five beta versions between 2001 and 2005, which lead to version 1.0 in 2006. In 2008, the technology incubator Willow Garage begun supporting the project and, in the same year, version 1.1 was released. In October 2009, OpenCV 2.0 was released. It includes many improvements,

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such as a better C++ interface, more programming patterns, new functions and an optimization for multi-core architectures. According to the current OpenCV release plan, a new version of the library is delivered on a six-months basis. [Ope12a].

Main Features



The figure above shows the main features of the library. First of all, OpenCV offers an easy way to manage image data types. It provides functions to load, copy, edit, convert and store images and a basic graphical user interface that lets the developers handle key-board and mouse and display image and video. The library can work both on images and videos and lets manipulate images even with matrix and vector algebra routines, for example, eigenvalues and singular value decomposition. It supports the most common dynamic data structures and offers many different basic image processing functions: filtering, edge and corner detection, color conversion, sampling and interpolation, morphological operations, histograms and image pyramids. Beyond this, it integrates many functions for structural analysis of the image including connected components, contour processing, distance transform, template matching, Hough transform, polygonal approximation, line

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fitting, ellipse fitting and Delaunay triangulation as well as features for camera calibration like finding and tracking calibration patterns, calibration, fundamental matrix estimation, homography estimation and stereo correspondence. It also offers many functions for motion analysis like optical flow, motion segmentation and tracking and features for object recognition [Aga06].

References

[Aga06] Gady Agam. Introduction to programming with OpenCV. Technical report, 2006.

[Ope12a] Opency change logs, 2012. Available on line.

[Ope12b] Opencv web page, 2012. Available on line.