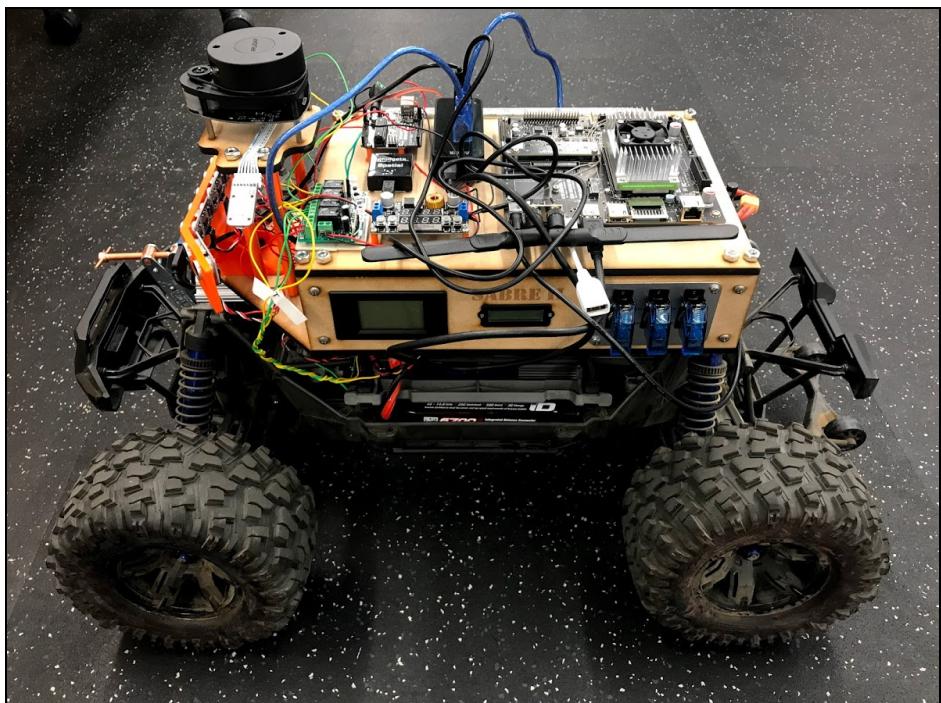


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In the next six weeks, you will move on from the MATLAB skill building tutorials you have just completed to a 6 week set of hands-on-hardware, team-based tutorials (often called labs). In these tutorials the primary goal will be to both master the underlying technology beneath the SENSE-THINK-ACT robotics components they contain and also generate your own toolbox of MATLAB robotics functions to efficiently work with those same components. You will use your new robot toolbox on a big, multi-week final project where your team will build a fully operational autonomous robot to do a representative real-world mission. This year we will have teams build and lightly compete in a planetary rover race around the Olin Oval.



Pretty much all robot control software shares a SENSE-THINK-ACT data flow in some manner or another. In fancier academic language, “perception” feeds into “cognition” which commands “actuation.” You will find deep resources in background material; technical papers, books, videos, journal articles, in all three of these areas

as you move into the robotics technical space. A robotics-engineer can build a whole career investigating and building new technology in just one of these areas.

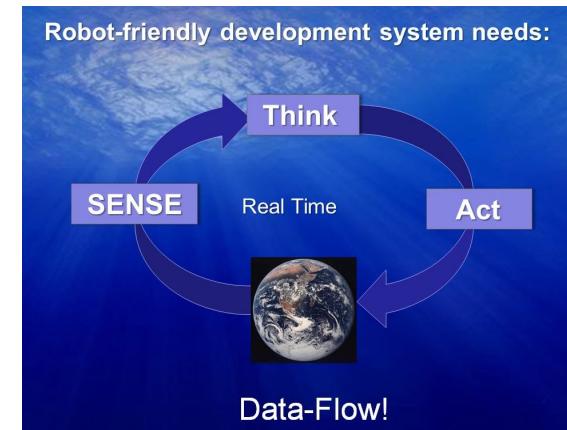


Figure : Sense-Think-Act Control Loop

THINK: involves designing robot behaviors {follow wall, avoid obstacle, move toward target, pick up container, follow lane, stop for pedestrian, weld on joint line, etc.} that receive data from the robot sensor suite processing code {SENSE: “Where am I?”, “What is around me?” and “How am I?”}, perform useful mission based cognition on this input data stream {based on sensor data, have robot do something useful}, runs the outputs from the THINK behaviors into a set of arbiters which finally command the robots actuators, ACT to send setpoints to the actuator code to execute.

That's a pretty big wordy sentence. It's much simpler in practice. For this lab and the Arduino-Raspberry Pi tools you have already used, you will be given a set of SENSE Matlab functions, you will create both a handful of THINK behavior functions, and one or two THINK arbiter functions (a arbiter for each main actuation system; wheels, arms, pan/tilt, etc. is pretty standard) and will use a small set of pre-written Matlab ACT actuator functions. You can then just add those new functions to the MATLAB SENSE-THINK-ACT robot control template that you developed in the second tutorial for this course, reusing code to the maximum extent possible.

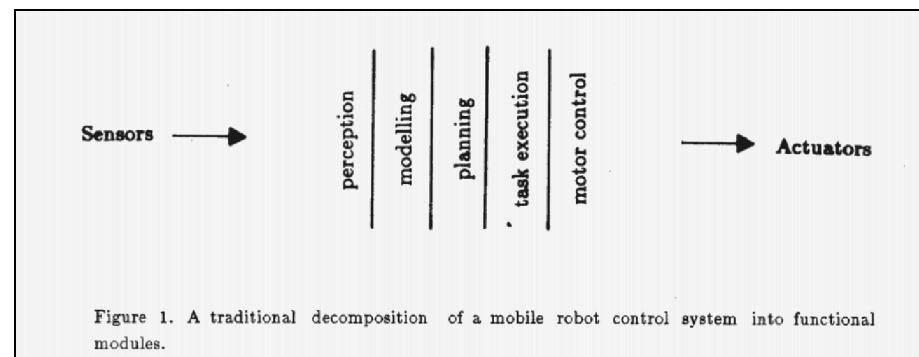
Let us look at the theory behind all of this a bit before diving right into the mechanics of how to code it. It's important to understand why you are doing something, before you master how you do it. Many of today's robotics engineers feel that a large part of modern robotics started with Prof. Rod Brook's seminal 1985 paper on behavior based robotics:

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE LABORATORY

I was lucky enough to work for Rod at that time at the MIT Artificial Intelligence Lab where this work started. Please see the [Canvas THINK folder](#) for full text of paper and give it a read through. This paper (and the steady stream of papers out of his MIT Mobot lab) changed the course of modern robotics. Before Brooks, robots were

slow, dumb and required enormous rooms full of computers to laboriously build fragile simulation ‘toy block’ world models of the real world in order to make even the smallest decision. After Brooks, robot cars autonomously drive at high speed through Boston on a daily basis.

The original Brooks robots were of about the same level of complexity as those we seek to build in this Fun-Robot class. Following in the footsteps of a successful strategy, we will be building a simplified version of his **Subsumption** architecture, using multiple robot **Behaviors** simultaneously feeding commands into a set of simple **Arbiters** to let your Olin robots perform complex multi-modal missions, in real-time, in a complex real world. In a brief summary, before Brooks, robot control software was written as a linear sequential procedure, one, long, block of dense robot control code:



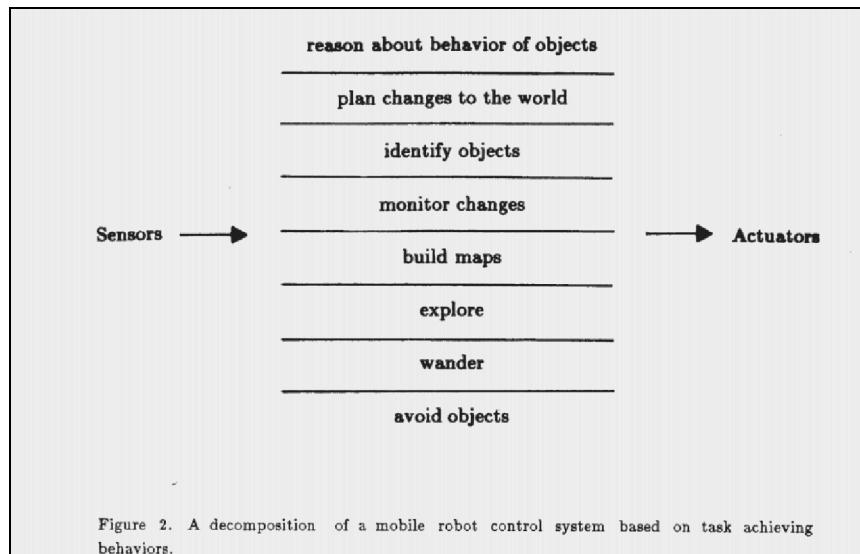
Brook's key insight was that biological systems don't run that way. Instead their control is a complex tapestry of many behaviors, running in parallel, where higher order behaviors can "subsume" control over actuators if needed, but the lower level behaviors will always robustly control the actuators unless/until a higher behavior steps in. Your breath control is a great example. Take a deep breath and hold it until you finish reading the next two paragraphs. While you were reading the initial part of this lab, your lower level lung control behavior was steadily commanding your chest muscles to expand to pull fresh air in, and then to contract to push your exhaust out. This behavior chugs along, nicely keeping you alive, without your brain thinking too

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much about it. Having this awesome lower level behavior, frees your brain up to think about more demanding things, like reading this paragraph.

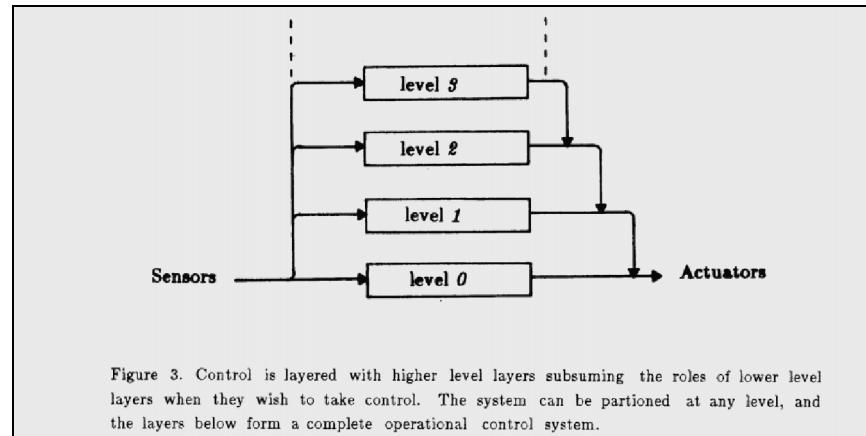
Then bam! You fall out of a canoe and a higher level water-survival behavior (diving reflex), rapidly closes off your air intake to keep you from pulling dirty river water into your lungs. It subsumed control over your lung actuators. Subsumption based bio-control and just saved your life! The ability to have both behaviors (and in practice many behaviors) running at the same time, gives people and robots the ability to robustly survive and adapt to a dynamically changing world. You can stop holding your breath now, relax your subsumption override, and let the lower level behavior take over and breath for you while you read the rest of this lab.

Brooks proposed to run many robot-behaviors, from low to high, all in parallel, all able to see the same sensors and drive the same actuators:

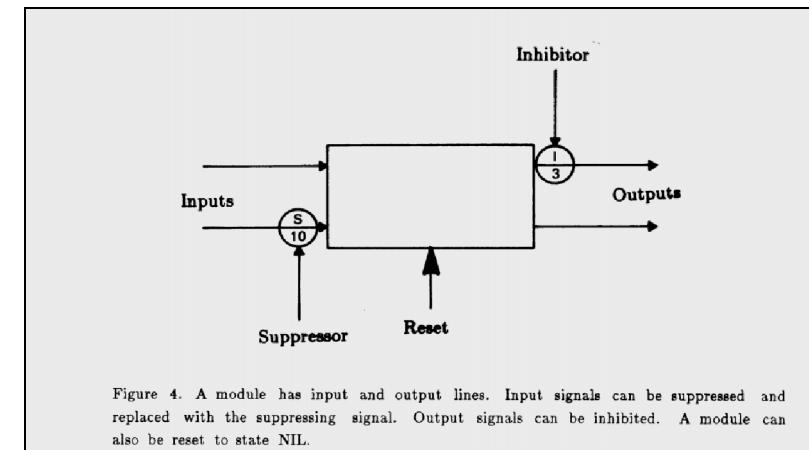


This one bold step allowed robots, for the first time, to drive around and interact with a dynamically changing world, in real-time, using non-room size computers. Specifically, not just in a computer simulation sped up, but in actual real-time.

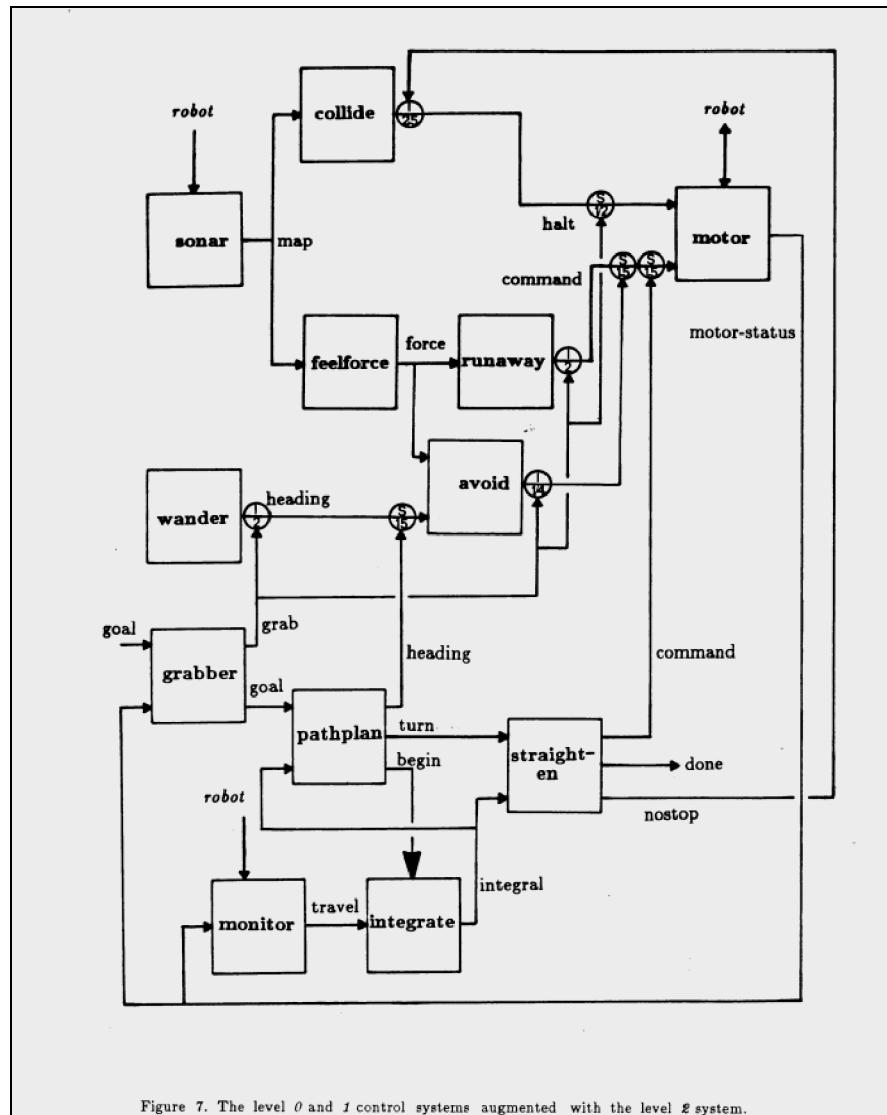
Within this form of control system, you will write a set of simple behaviors as functions and then weave them together into a structure like the one in Brook's original paper:



We will use finite state machines (FSM) encoded into Matlab functions to hold each behavior:



Eventually ending up with a system of about the complexity shown below to drive your THINK lab-cart's robot tugboat.



In this lab, we will give you the SENSE and ACT functions for the tug code and work with your team to develop and give you hands-on experience with writing the THINK part, namely, the following set of simple robot-tugboat behaviors:

- Explore: Head out on a random time switching heading
- Avoid: Head away from obstacles in front of boat
- Follow: If you see a sought after target (a brightly colored purple NarWhal plush toy), follow it.

And help your team write two simple arbiters;

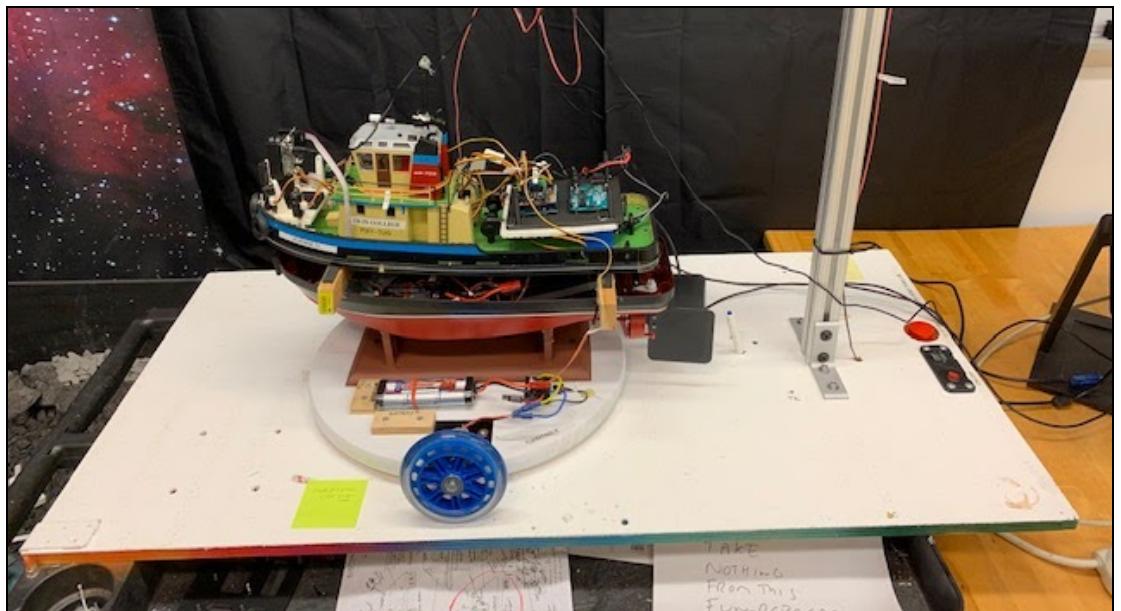
- Heading: one to control the commanded rudder angle of the tug
- Speed: and a separate one to control the speed of its propellers.

We will use a hardware in the loop simulation model to drive your physical tug (on a lab test cart turntable) in a virtual 30' diameter pool.

Finally, as in all 4 labs, we will ask you to, in parallel with your lab work (in part 2 of this assignment), to keep advancing your MATLAB programming skills by carrying out an additional set of simple MATLAB tutorials. Please do them spread out over the next two weeks.

Think Lab

This lab contains a fully functional robotic tugboat mounted on a driven turntable. The tugboat has a Raspberry Pi Robot controller on board and forward looking Pi Cam and an array of Sharp Infrared range sensors as its main perception suite, and a set of embedded servo controls for the rudder and propellers. You will be given working functions for the sensors and actuators, your team's mission is to create all of the THINK code that goes in between:



Think Lab Robot Tug Hardware

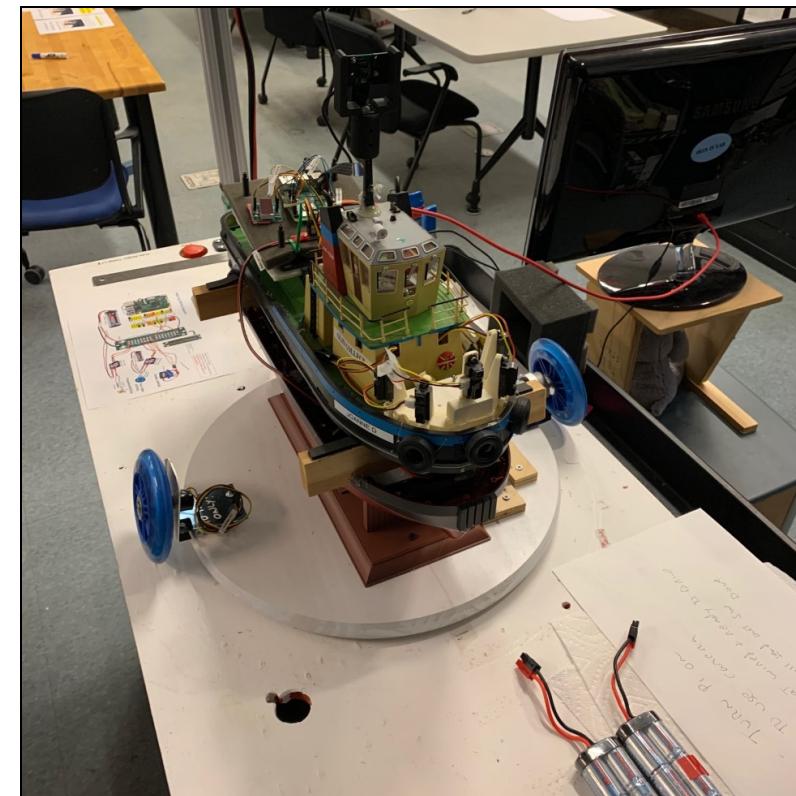


NarWhal Target

Description of Robot Tug SENSE code functions

The THINK lab robot tugboat has three types of sensors on it, an IR-Range suite to see and help avoid obstacles, a Pi Camera to find the purple Narwhal and a turntable mounted Potentiometer to stand in for the boats compass to provide a boat heading. Each sensor system is described below:

1. There is an array of 6 SHARP Infra-red range sensors on the bow.



Sharp IR Range Sensor Array and PiCam

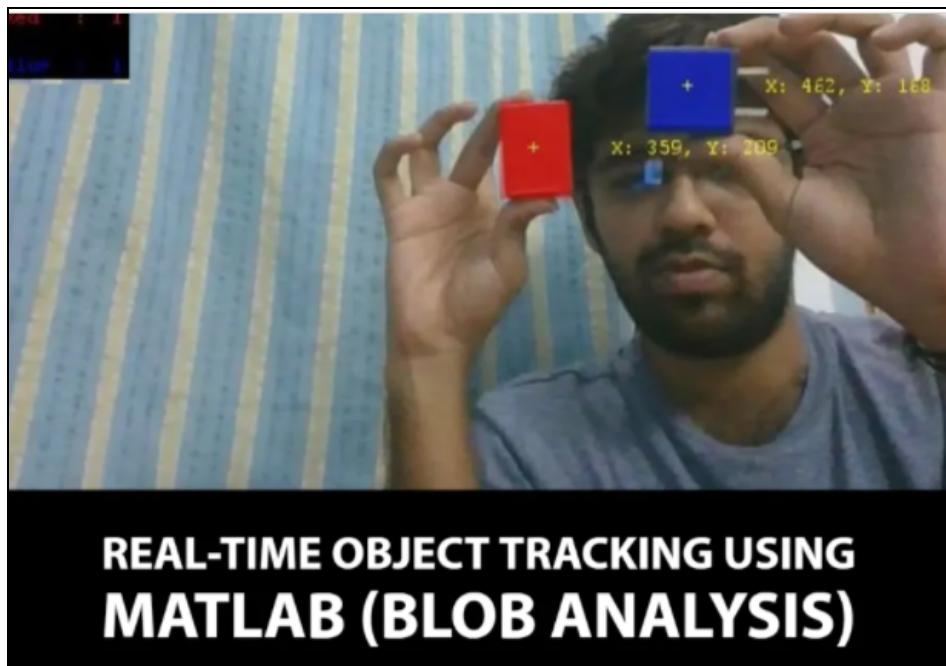
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They can be used for obstacle avoidance to give you a set of ranges to whatever is in front of your tug. We will be using virtual Sharp IRs in the simulated tank environment to give you range data for what is in front of the tug. You will get to work with real Sharp-IRs in depth in the SENSE lab and again on your final project Oval Rover.

2. There is a PiCam to let you find and track the purple NarWhal. The PiCam is a quite high quality computer vision sensor that works seamlessly with the Raspberry Pi. A quick orientation video from the MathWorks can be found here:

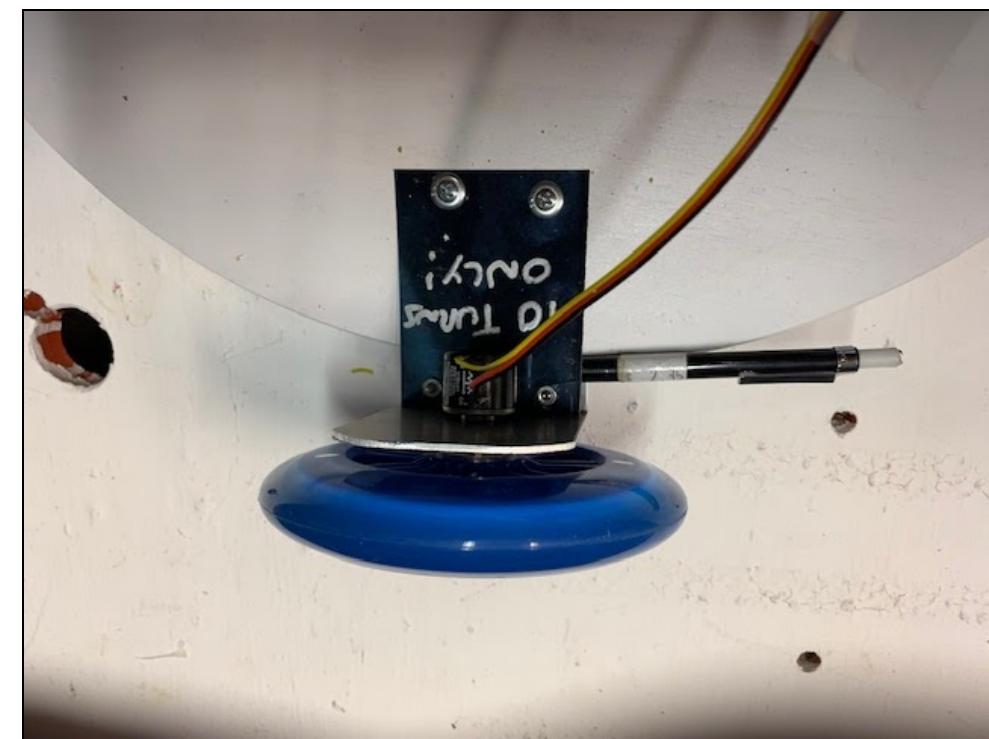
<https://www.mathworks.com/videos/using-matlab-with-a-raspberry-pi-camera-board-94192.html>

A Typical color tracking output of PiCam shown here:



You will work the basics of computer vision and with the PiCam extensively in one of the SENSE lab's test stations. So that you can focus on THINK for this lab, we will supply you a set of completed functions here.

3. There is a multi-turn potentiometer to tell you the boat's current heading with respect to the test cart. We will provide you a function to read the heading pot. The heading turntable Potentiometer shown here:



4. There is a Marine Viper servo speed control to drive the turntable drive motor. It is basically an open loop DC motor speed control. It's pre-wired to the turntable drive wheel motor. You will get to work extensively with all types of position and velocity servo motors in the ACT lab. Here, to let your team

focus on THINK, we will provide a function to drive this turntable motor. The battery for this motor sits in a cradle near the hull on the turntable.



Turntable drive motor and MarineViper speed control

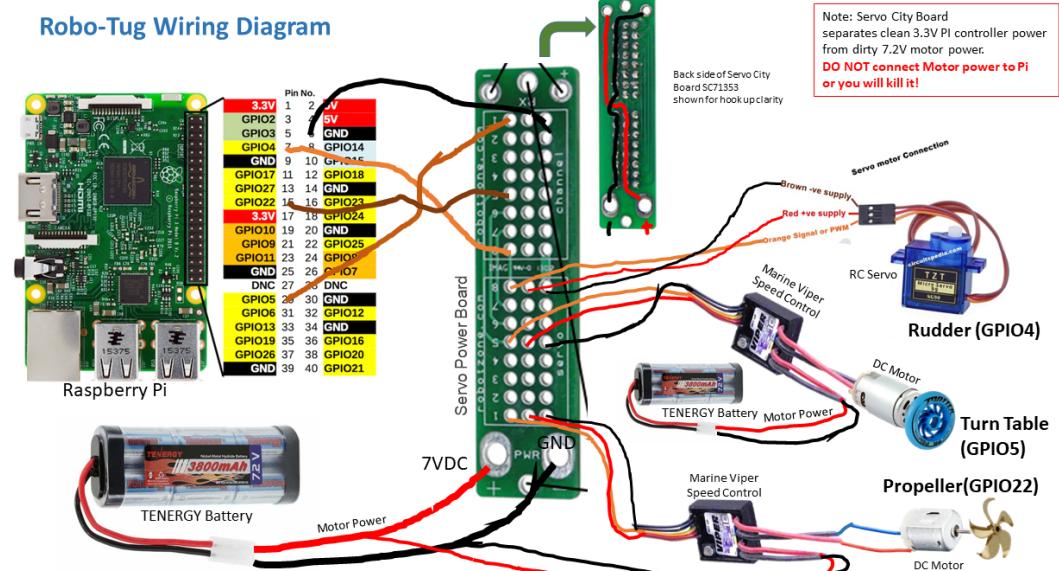
5. There is a standard RC servo motor inside the Tug connected to the twin rudders. We will provide a function to let you position control them.
6. The twin propellers are driven by a second Marine-Viper speed control unit located inside the Tugs hull. Its propulsion battery sits inside the hull next to the speed control. We will provide you with a function to control the propellor's speed forward and back.

7. There is also a set of RGB super bright LEDs inside the wheel house of the tug. As a stretch goal, you can hook these up to your Raspberry Pi and change the colors based on what behavior your tug is currently doing.

Description of Robot Tug Control Wiring

The THINK lab consists of a fully operational small robot control system for an autonomous robot tug boat. It is built around a single Raspberry Pi and shown below:

A downloadable larger pdf copy can be found on the ThinkLab canvas site.



Create ThinkLab Robot Tug control code

The main **difference between a control system and a robot controller** is that in a control system *the connection between the sensor input and the actuator output is hardwired*. They tend to be brittle when dealing with unforeseen changes in the surrounding environment or unforeseen disturbances. In a robot, the sensor input is evaluated by a family of basic robot behaviors and their collective output is arbitrated to produce an optimal actuator output. **Control systems don't think, Robots do.** In order to get a first hand experience in the differences between a control system and a robot, for this hands-on tutorial, you will write two twin Matlab Scripts, the first will be a straight tugboat pure pursuit way point controller. You will use it to crash into unplanned icebergs in a virtual test pool. The second will copy the first code, make a few light changes to add a behaviour based robot brain, and (hopefully) your Robot Tug will avoid those icebergs with ease. You can demo both on demo day.

You can start by opening your copy of the Matlab robot code you wrote in week 2 (**OvalRover.mlx**) and save a copy of it (in your joint team MATLAB DRIVE depository) called **RobotTugControl.mlx**. Open **Oval Rover**:

The screenshot shows the Matlab Editor window titled "OvalRover2021.mlx". The code is as follows:

```
1 clc % clear command window
2 clear % clear MATLAB workspace
```

The code is preceded by a large orange header block:

OvalRover.mlx is a simulation of a planetary rover

This code simulates a wheeled autonomous planetary rover performing multiple missions on the Olin Oval

- It takes desired location waypoints as inputs
- It delivers a moving map simulation of rover transversing the Oval as an output

Written by Betsy Yu and Frank Olin 2021. Revision A

And save as **RobotTugControl**. Working in pair programming teams of 2, please make code changes to first section as shown to document its new functionality:

The screenshot shows the Matlab Editor window titled "RobotTugControl2021_RevC.mlx". The code is as follows:

```
1 clc % clear command window
2 clear % clear MATLAB workspace
```

The code is preceded by a large orange header block:

RobotTugControl.mlx is a hardware in the loop simulation of a robot tug

This code controls an autonomous robot boat performing a simulated missions in the Olin LPB water testing tank.

The fundamental difference between a control system and a robotic system is that a control system doesn't "think" about what to do next. Given one set of inputs, it will always generate the same output. A robot system will take that same set of inputs, consider multiple responses and choose the best output to accomplish the mission. This script will give you hands on experience with a **classical pure pursuit control system**. Its sister program **RobotTugThinkLab** will perform the same mission with a behavior based robot controller that blends multiple synchronous robot behaviors to more robustly accomplish the same goal.

Written (pair programmed) by **your name** and **partners** name 2021. Revision A [REDACTED]

Most robot control code isn't written from scratch. It is created by modifying existing code to meet a new need. We will do that here (and save you a lot of rewriting) by reusing your most of the Oval Rover code structure for your hardware-in-the-loop tugboat controller and robot brain work to follow.

You will find in most of your future robot work, you will be either reusing code you have downloaded from an on-line repository like GitHub or reusing and rewriting code your research group or company has given you for the robot system you are developing on. In all cases robust documentation is key. **You don't write code for yourself, you write it for all of those robot engineers that follow in your footsteps!**

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For this hands-on tutorial, we will have each team of pair programmers produce their own two person version of this first classical control code and demo it. We will then reform you into one bigger team and have each sub-team take on writing and deploying one of the tug's new robot behaviors. More to come on that in the second section. For now please modify the **code that runs once** section to look like this:

```
Set up tug control system ( code that runs once )

Set up your Raspberry Pi to control tug. Call TugRaspPiSetup function to create and configure your Pi.
Download function from Canvas. See function for documentation on how it works.

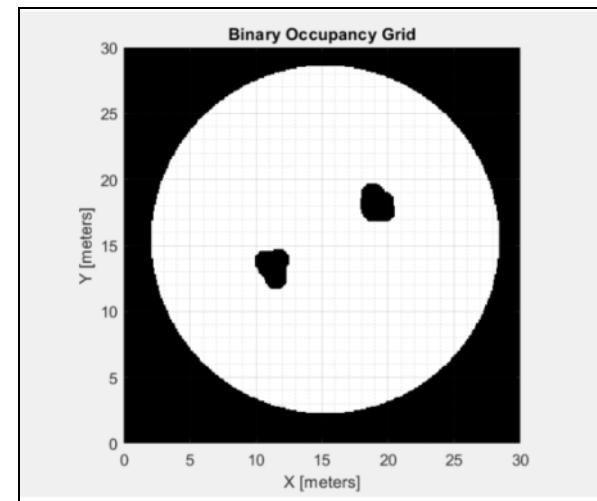
3 disp('Downloading code to Raspberry Pi may take about 10 sec'); _____
4 Downloading code to Raspberry Pi may take about 10 sec
[robotPi,rudderServo,propServo, blinkLED, cam] = TugRaspPiSetup(); _____ ←

Load a map of Olin Oval test pool ( to be built into a Binary Occupancy Grid )
TestPool.png can be downloaded form Canvas too. _____

5 img = imread('TestPool.png'); % load oval image (from Canvas)
6 grayimage = im2gray(img); % convert to grayscale
7 bwimage = grayimage < 0.5; % convert to blackand white
8 MapOfPool = binaryOccupancyMap(bwimage,10); % convert to binaryoccupancymap in meters
9 % comment out
10 % show(MapOfPool); % show map
11 % Inflate the map with the RobotTug size,so tug can be treated as a point. Assume
12 % robot Tug is 0.25m long bow to stern
13 MapOfPoolInflated = copy(MapOfPool); % make a copy, don't lose original data
14 inflate(MapOfPoolInflated, 0.25); % dilate map to accomidate robot body size
15
16 % livescript does some funky stuff when you try to update in line plots quickly, so
17 % create a free floating figure for map to deal with livescript update problem
18 testPool = figure('name','OlinLPBPool','NumberTitle','off','Visible','on');
19 figure(testPool) % go to ovalTrack figure for next plot
20 show(MapOfPoolInflated); % show new map in a new figure window
21 grid on;
22 grid minor;
```

The additions are using a new function called **TugRaspPiSetup()** in line 4 that will take care of the detailed configuration of the tug's Raspberry pi. You can download it from [this assignments Canvas page](#) and make sure to add it to the working directory your team's code is in. You can download and add the [TugServoControl function](#) as well.

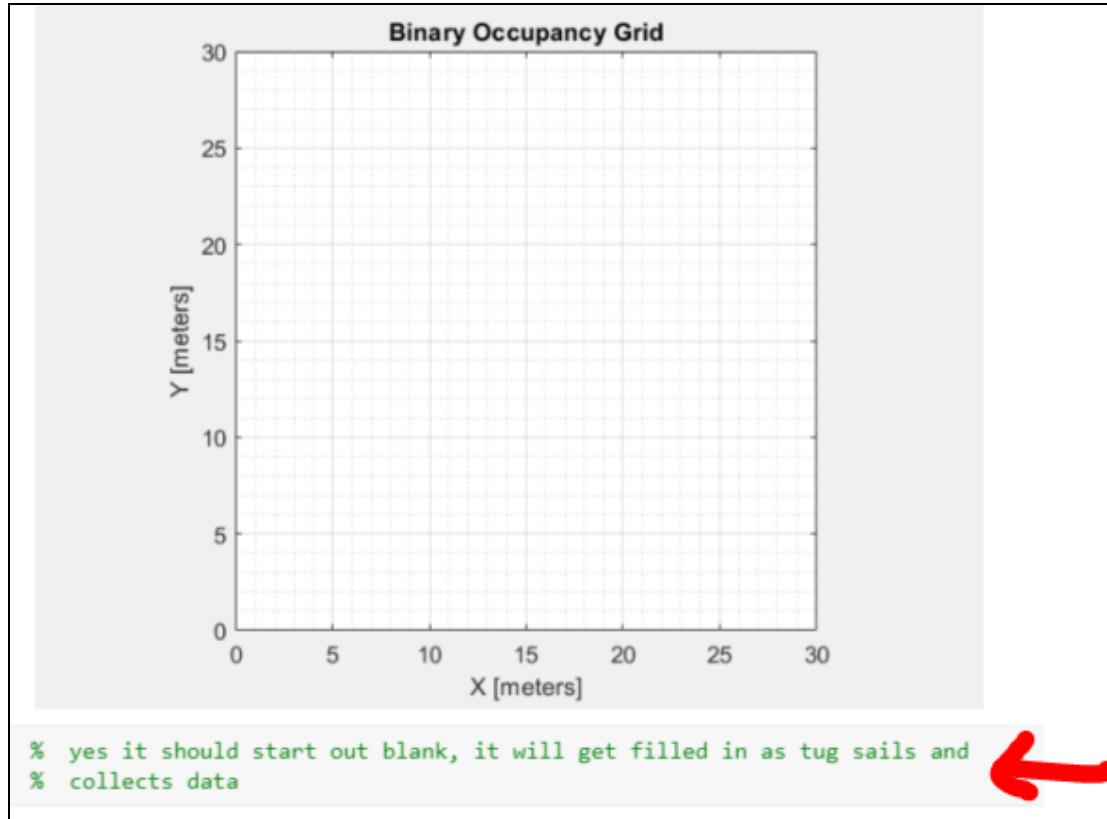
Next you will modify your code to use a premade map of Olin's big circular test pool (out in LPB) with two icebergs floating in the middle of it ([download TestPool.png](#) and put it in the same directory). If you run this first code section line by line you will notice that it takes about 10-12 seconds to connect and download code to Raspberry Pi (that is normal for embedded type controllers in this class). And it will generate a pretty stand alone figure of the pool:



Next you will modify code to switch from a LIdar to 6 discrete SharpIR range sensors, so change code to set up a figure to see this new data in:

```
Create a sharpIR range sensor based map of world ( to be filled in as Tug sails around the pool ) _____

23 % Create an empty map of the same dimensions as the test pool map
24 [mapdimx,mapdimy] = size(bwimage); % find size of map image
25 sharpIRMap = binaryOccupancyMap(mapdimx,mapdimy,10,"grid"); % make empty map the same size
26
27 % create a free floating figure for map to deal with livescript update problem
28 tugSharpIRScan = figure('name','TugSharpIRScan','NumberTitle','off','Visible','on');
29 figure(tugSharpIRScan)
30 show(sharpIRMap);
31 | grid on;
32 | grid minor;
```



Moving on please modify the original rover control code to reflect the new tug robot as shown below:

```
35 Create a differential drive robot tug(this model takes robot vehicle speed and heading for inputs)
36 diffDriveTug = differentialDriveKinematics("VehicleInputs", "VehicleSpeedHeadingRate"); _____

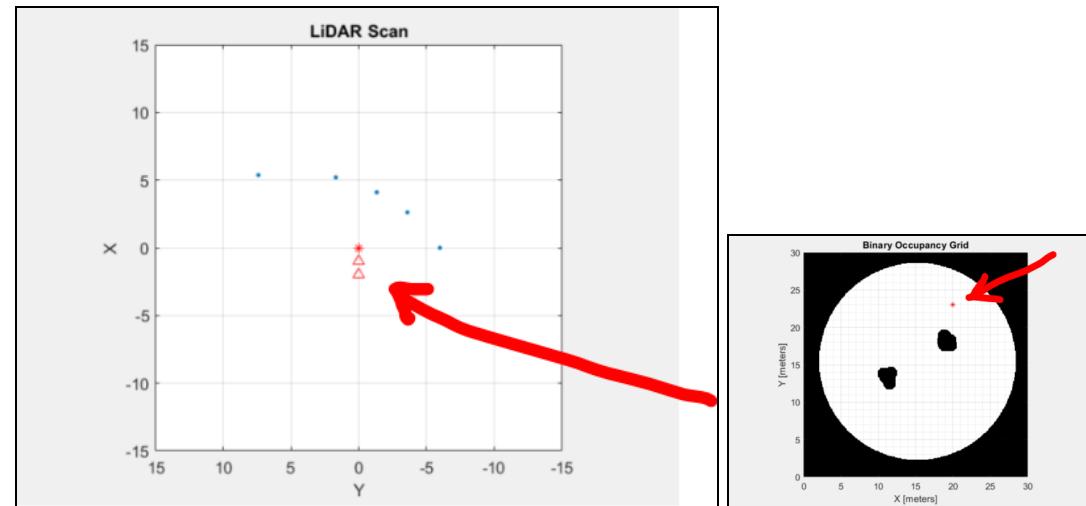
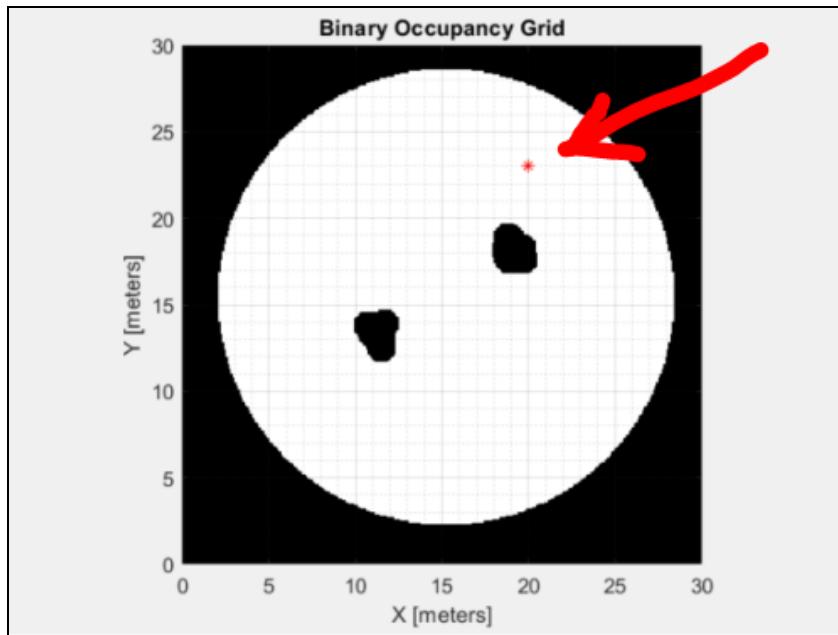
37 Create a pure pursuit Tug controller (this controller generates the robots speed and heading needed to follow a desired path, set
38 desired linear velocity and max angular velocity in m/s and rad/s)

39 TugController = controllerPurePursuit('DesiredLinearVelocity',2,'MaxAngularVelocity',3); _____
```

Next, please do a pretty heavy rewrite of the existing lidar code to remake **rangeSensor** shift from a 180 deg Lidar to a cluster of 6 discrete long range Sharp IR distance sensors. In the upcoming or previous SENSE lab, you will get (or got) hands-on expertise in wiring up, calibrating and using these very common low-cost range sensors. For this lab we are going to use a simulated version of them in the simulated test pool. Please change code as is shown below:

```
35 Create 180 degree sharp IR range sensor suite for your rover.
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
sharpIRPod = rangeSensor; % creates a rangeSensor system object see help for info
sharpIRPod.Range = [0.1,10]; % sets minimum and maximum range of sensor
sharpIRPod.HorizontalAngle =[-pi/2, pi/2]; % sets max min detection angle
sharpIRPod.HorizontalAngleResolution = 0.628318; % sets sharp pod resolution to 6 sensors
testPose = [20 23 pi/2]; % set an initial test pose for lidar
%
% Plot the test spot for lidar scan on the reference Olin Oval Map
figure(testPool) % designate free floating poolTrackMap to draw on
hold on
plot(20,23, 'r*'); % plot robot initial position in pool
hold off
```

The unchanged part of code places tug in pool to give frame of reference for sharp pool scan to come:



Where you can clearly see 5 of the six SharpIR range beams getting valid range data from the pool wall. Tug is designated by red icons at the center of the plot, heading to the top of the plot is what is directly in front of Tug. +X is forward of Tug bow, -X to its stern.

Then update code as shown to take a first test scan of pool around Tug:

```

48 % Generate a SharpIR test scan from test position.
49 [ranges, angles] = sharpIRPod(testPose, MapOfPoolInflated);
50 scan = lidarScan(ranges, angles);
51
52 % Visualize the test lidar scan data in robot coordinate system.
53 % create a new free-standing figure to display the local sharpIR range data,
54 % tug at center of plot
55 localSharpIRPlot=figure('Name','localSharpIRMap','NumberTitle','off','Visible','on');
56 figure(localSharpIRPlot)
57 plot(scan) % positive X forward, positive Y left
58 axis([-15 15 -15 15])
59 hold on;
60 plot(0,0, 'r*'); % plot robot position
61 plot(-1,-0, 'r^'); % plot robot position
62 plot(-2,-0, 'r^'); % plot robot position
63 hold off;

```

Next we will have you create two waypoint paths to follow, the first is a clear circumnavigation of the tank (looking for NarWhal). The second will take you through an uncharted iceberg. Please comment the second out for now, get your whole system working and then go back and run the second path to see what happens.

Change your code to :

```

Create a test path of waypoints to sail through the pool for gathering range sensor readings.

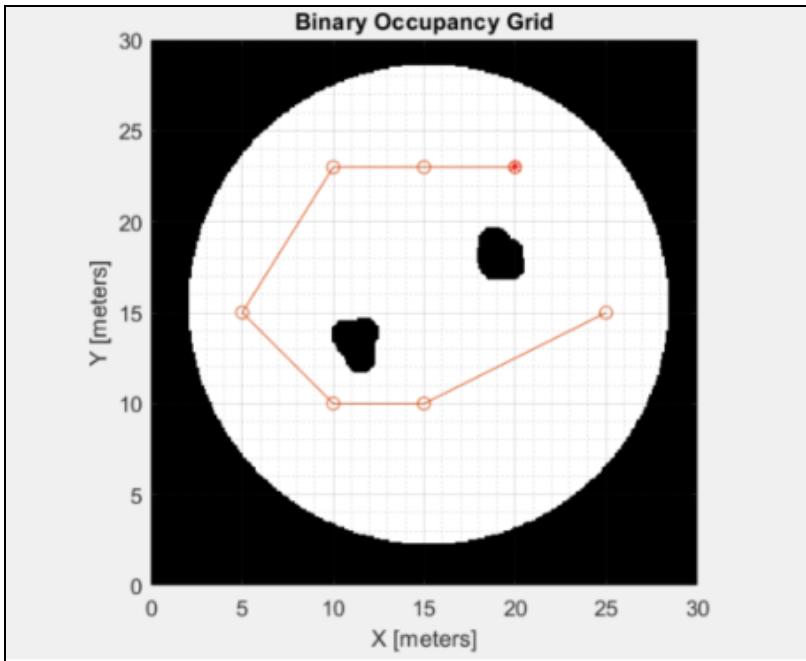
64 path = [ 20 23; 15 23; 10 23; 5 15; 10 10; 15 10; 25 15]; % clear path waypoints
65 % path = [ 20 23; 15 23; 10 23; 5 15; 15 12; 20 10; 25 15]; % crash path waypoints
66
67 % Plot the path on the reference map figure.
68 figure(testPool) % select testPoolMap
69 hold on
70 plot(path(:,1),path(:,2), 'o-'); % plot path on it
71 hold off

```

Generating the following plot:

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Generating the waypoint path:



Make some light naming changes to next section (go code reuse!):

```
72 TugController.Waypoints = path; % set Tug waypoints
Set the initial pose and final goalWayPoint location based on the path. Create global variables for storing the current pose and an index for tracking the iterations.
73 initTugPose = [path(1,1) path(1,2), pi/2]; % store intial loaction and orientation of rover
74 goalWayPoint = [path(end,1) path(end,2)]; % path end waypoint
75 sampleTime = 0.10; % Sample time [s]
76 t = 0:sampleTime:100; % Time array
77 robotPoses = zeros(3,numel(t)); % Pose matrix
78 robotPoses(:,1) = initTugPose'; % store robot robotPoses
79 r = rateControl(1/sampleTime); % reset control loop rate
80 reset(r); % reset loop time to zero
81
Ready to run robot, ask operator if they are set and suggest they move plots to a visible position
82 runRover = input('Ready to run Tug? Arrange your data plots for clear visibility, then type 1 and hit Enter')
```

And you have finished revising **your code that runs once**.

Pause to reflect on this just a bit. By reusing well-structured, well-documented code (originally created for a whole different robot), you have just saved yourself and team about a week or so of hard, heavy new code generation.

This is why it is so critically important to write code for future use (by yourself and others), employing the twin tools of clean understandable common structure and heavy clear embedded-documentation. To make your code usable to others, you should shoot for a 50-50 ratio of code to documentation.

Imagine the sucking swamp you would be in now, if you were doing an archaeological dig on messy spaghetti code you got from the previous team ,in order to harvest some of it to build this new code on. It's really easy to write bad undocumented code. Everyone does for a while. **Bad code is pain**.

Please choose to not subject your awesome teammates to bad code pain.

Moving on to the center **Tug Sense-Think-Act control loop**, first take a look at the following rewrite of the code that runs continually:

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Run robot control loop (code that runs over and over)

```
84 controlIndex = 1; % create a robot loop control
85 while (controlIndex < numel(t))
86     position = robotPoses(:,controlIndex); % rovers current position
87     tugLocation = position(1:2); % current rover X and Y from position
88
89     % End loop if rover has reached goal waypoint within tolerance of 1.0m
90     dist = norm(goalWayPoint'-tugLocation);
91     if (dist < 1.0) % robot reaches end goal
92         disp("Goal position reached")
93         break; % stop control loop
94     end
95
96     % SENSE: collect data from robot lidar
97 [ranges, angles] = SENSE(position, MapOfPoolInflated, sharpIRMap ,tugSharpIRScan, localSharpIRPlot, sharpIRPod);
98
99     % THINK: compute what robot should do next
100 [tugX,tugY,vRef, wRef,robotPoses] = THINK(robotPoses,diffDriveTug,TugController,sampleTime, controlIndex);
101
102     % Check to see if Tug is hitting a physical obstacle
103     crash = checkOccupancy(MapOfPoolInflated,[tugX tugY]);
104     if (crash == 1)
105         disp('Tug crashed, all stop!');
106         break;
107     end
108
109     % ACT: command robot actuators
110 ACT(tugX, tugY, vRef, wRef, rudderServo, propServo, testPool);
111
112     controlIndex = controlIndex + 1; %increment control loop index
113     waitfor(r); % wait for loop cycle to complete
114
115 end
```



First notice that the main **Sense**, **Think** and **Act** functions got a lot longer. We are explicitly passing individual variables into and out of functions here for clarity while you are just getting started with learning to program. There are more elegant ways to bundle these variables into data structures, or arrays that will make the code more compact (one argument in, one argument out) but that compactness of expression comes with the downside of much less clarity. It adds a step where you need to decode what variables each structure carries and how to work with them. As you complete the MATLAB software tutorials at the end of this write up, your skill with those tools will increase and we can start using data structures to make this type of code a bit less wordy.

Let's go through this step by step and explore what each function does.

First let's take a look at the **Sense** function:

```
126 function [ranges, angles] = SENSE(position, mapOfTrack, blankSharpMap, fig_SharpMap, fig_localSharpPlot, lidar)
127 % SENSE scans the reference map using the range sensor and the current pose.
128 % This simulates normal range readings for driving in an unknown environment.
129 % Update the sharp map with the range readings.
130 % inputs are tug position, mapOfTrack, sharpMap, figure to plot global sharp IR data,
131 % figure to plot local sharp IR, sensor name
132 % outputs are sharp IR array ranges and angles in local coordinate system
133 % Betsy Yu 2021 Rev A
134
135 [ranges, angles] = lidar(position, mapOfTrack);
136 scan = lidarScan(ranges,angles);
137 validScan = removeInvalidData(scan,'RangeLimits',[0,lidar.Range(2)]);
138 insertRay(blankSharpMap,position,validScan,lidar.Range(2));
139
140 figure(fig_SharpMap);
141 hold on;
142 show(blankSharpMap);
143 grid on;
144 grid minor;
145 hold off;
146
147 figure(fig_localSharpPlot); % positive X is forward, positive Y left on graph
148 plot(scan);
149 axis([-15 15 -15 15])
150 hold on;
151 plot(0,0, 'r*'); % plot robot position
152 plot(-1,-0, 'r^'); % plot robot position
153 plot(-2,-0, 'r^'); % plot robot position
154 hold off;
155
156 end
```

The **SENSE** function takes in the map of the pool, the Tugs position and the Sharp IR range sensor array configuration. It gives back a set of 6 sharp IR ranges at the 6 angles the sensors are mounted at, in the array on the tug's bow. It also plots that data both on the global map of all recorded sharp range data and a local map of what those ranges look like from the tug itself. You will need the second one to design behaviors for tug in the next part of the tutorial work. Please enter and modify your code to look like the code show above.

Next up, let us look at the **THINK** function. In all candor it's not really doing any real thinking. There is no deciding between options or path optimizations, it's just a straight control system running a standard **pure pursuit algorithm** to produce tug actuation commands for the Act function to carry out. If you command tug into a wall, by mixing up a few waypoints, it will happily steam full speed into that wall and crash.

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Please modify your existing **Think** function to look like this:

```
Think Functions (store all Think related local functions here)

157 function [tugX,tugY,vRef,wRef, poses] = THINK(poses,diffDrive, ppControl,sampleTime, loopIndex)
158 % THINK gets control commands from pure pursuit controller
159 % to drive to next waypoint. Calculate derivative of robot motion
160 % based on control commands.
161 % inputs are rover poses, diffDrive dynamics, loop sampleTime, loop index
162 % outputs are roverX, roverY, robot poses (position of robot)
163 % Frank Olin 2021 Rev A
164
165 % Run the Pure Pursuit controller and
166 % convert output to wheel speeds
167 [vRef,wRef] = ppControl(poses(:,loopIndex));
168
169 % Perform forward discrete integration step
170 vel = derivative(diffDrive, poses(:,loopIndex), [vRef wRef]);
171 poses(:,loopIndex+1) = poses(:,loopIndex) + vel*sampleTime;
172
173 % Update rover location and pose
174 tugX = poses(1,loopIndex+1);
175 tugY = poses(2,loopIndex+1);
176
177 end
```

This new function will both calculate the new position and orientation of the tug, but it now also calculates the **vRef**, the desired commanded linear velocity and the **wRef**, the desired commanded angular velocity needed to get to the next waypoint and returns them to the main control program. Both will be used as inputs to the **Act** function to control the Tug's propeller speed and its rudder angle.

Finally take a look at the new **ACT** function. The original function did a good job of plotting the Tug's position on the map of the pool. Because we are going to do hardware in the loop simulation, you will need to add a few more operations to command the Raspberry Pi to drive the propeller speed controller and move its rudders to the correct angle.

Note: Your Tug has a single RC type servo that is connected to the Tugs twin rudders via a linkage. It can move them from -45 to 45 degrees with 0 degrees being straight on. The Tug also has a Marine Viper 15 speed control that commands the two DC motors driving the two propellers from full reverse to full forward speed. In

practice you'd develop calibration curves for both actuators that mapped them into the 0-180 control that the Matlab Raspberry Pis servo function takes as an input. You will have either had or will get to have hands-on experience with both in the ACT lab test stand. For this lab, we will give you those functions to use without further development.



Tug twin rudders and propellers

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Taking a look at the new **Act** function:

```
Act Functions (store all Act related local functions here)

178 function ACT(tugX, tugY,vRef, wRef, rudderServo, propServo, fig_testTrack)
179 % ACT Increment the robot pose based on the derivative.
180 % inputs are current X and Y position of rover and figure to plot rover in.
181 % outputs are no outputs
182 % Frank Olin 2021 Rev A
183 %Plot Tug location in pool
184 figure(fig_testTrack)
185 hold on
186 plot(tugX,tugY, 'b*'); % plot robot position in oval
187 hold off

188 % Drive Tug hardware serco motors
189 rudderAngle = wRef*15; % convert angular rate wRef to rudder degrees
190 propSpeed = vRef; % vref (-2 to 2 m/sec)
191 ok = TugServoControl(rudderServo, propServo, rudderAngle, propSpeed);
192
193 end
194
```

It now takes in **vRef**, and **wRef** as commanded inputs as well as the objects naming the rudderServo and propServo. The first part of the code draws the tugs position on the pool map, the second uses the provided **TugServoControl** to drive the actual tug rudder and propeller actuators so as the tug goes about on its virtual mission in the simulated tank, the actual tug will turn rudders and drive props to follow along in real life.

This form of **hardware in the loop simulation** is a really powerful way to both speed up code development and a safe way to try out new robot behaviors without needing to put on waders and chase your boat through chest-high water in duckweed when a small bit of code goes wrong.

Hardware in the loop control system testing was pioneered by the space and aircraft industry, where the cost of small failures is incredibly high, but it is now becoming more and more common both throughout robot development and in general industrial control as well.

Returning to the main control loop:

```
Run robot control loop ( code that runs over and over)

4 controlIndex = 1; % create a robot loop control
5 while (controlIndex < numel(t)) % loop for number of elements in t
6     position = robotPoses(:,controlIndex); % rovers current position
7     tugLocation = position(1:2); % current rover X and Y from position

8     % End loop if rover has reached goal waypoint within tolerance of 1.0m
9     dist = norm(goalWayPoint'-tugLocation);
10    if (dist < 1.0) % robot reaches end goal
11        disp("Goal position reached")
12        break; % stop control loop
13    end

14    % SENSE: collect data from robot lidar
15    [ranges, angles] = SENSE(position, MapOfPoolInflated, sharpIRMap ,tugSharpIRScan, localSharpIRPlot, sharpIRPod);

16    % THINK: compute what robot should do next
17    [tugX,tugY,vRef, wRef,robotPoses] = THINK(robotPoses,diffDriveTug,TugController,sampleTime, controlIndex);

18    % Check to see if Tug is hitting a physical obstacle
19    crash = checkOccupancy(MapOfPoolInflated,[tugX tugY]);
20    if (crash == 1)
21        disp('Tug crashed, all stop!');
22        break;
23    end

24    % ACT: command robot actuators
25    ACT(tugX, tugY, vRef, wRef, rudderServo, propServo, testPool);

26    controlIndex = controlIndex + 1; %increment control loop index
27    waitfor(r); % wait for loop cycle to complete
28
29 end
```

This control loop consists of a Matlab **while** loop that will run continuously until the Tug gets close to its final waypoint and then the code in the **if end** statement will **break** the loop and let the robot move through a clean shutdown. **SENSE** uses the sharp Irs to see what is around Tug, **THINK** applies pure pursuit control law to determine rudder and prop setting to best hit the next waypoint along the path and **ACT** drives rudder and propeller speed to get tug there in a controlled optimized way.

Before running this to see what happens, let's write the final section of clean shutdown code, so that you clear memory and leave the Pi in a good state each time you do a code development run. Please modify your existing shutdown code to look like this.

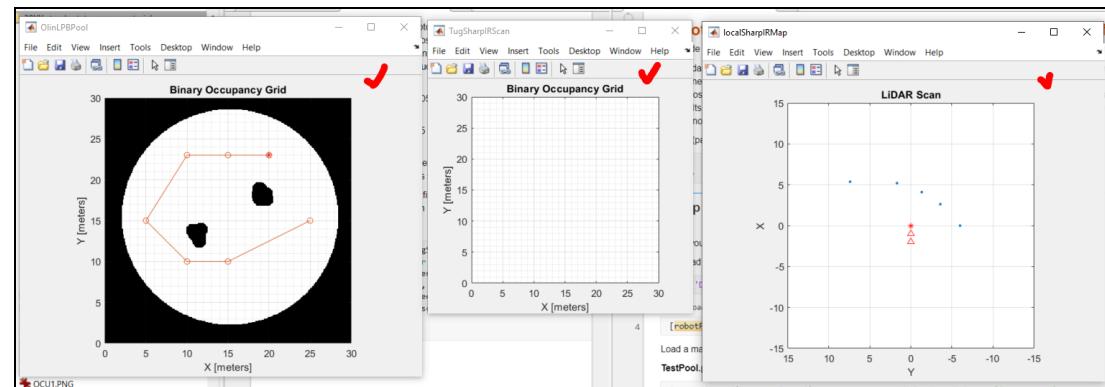
```

116 beep % give audio indication waypoint is reached
117
Clean shut down
118 finally, with most embedded robot controllers, its good practice to put
119 all actuators into a safe position and then release all control objects and shut down all
120 communication paths. This keeps systems from jamming when you want to run again.
121
122 % Stop program and clean up the connection to Raspberry Pi
123 % when no longer needed
124 writePosition(rudderServo, 90); % always end servo at 0.5
writePosition(propServo, 90); % always end servo at 0.5
clc
disp('Raspberry Pi program has ended');

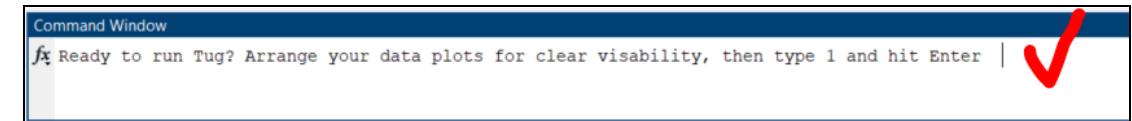
Raspberry Pi program has ended
125 clear robotPi
126 beep % play system sound to let user know program is ended

```

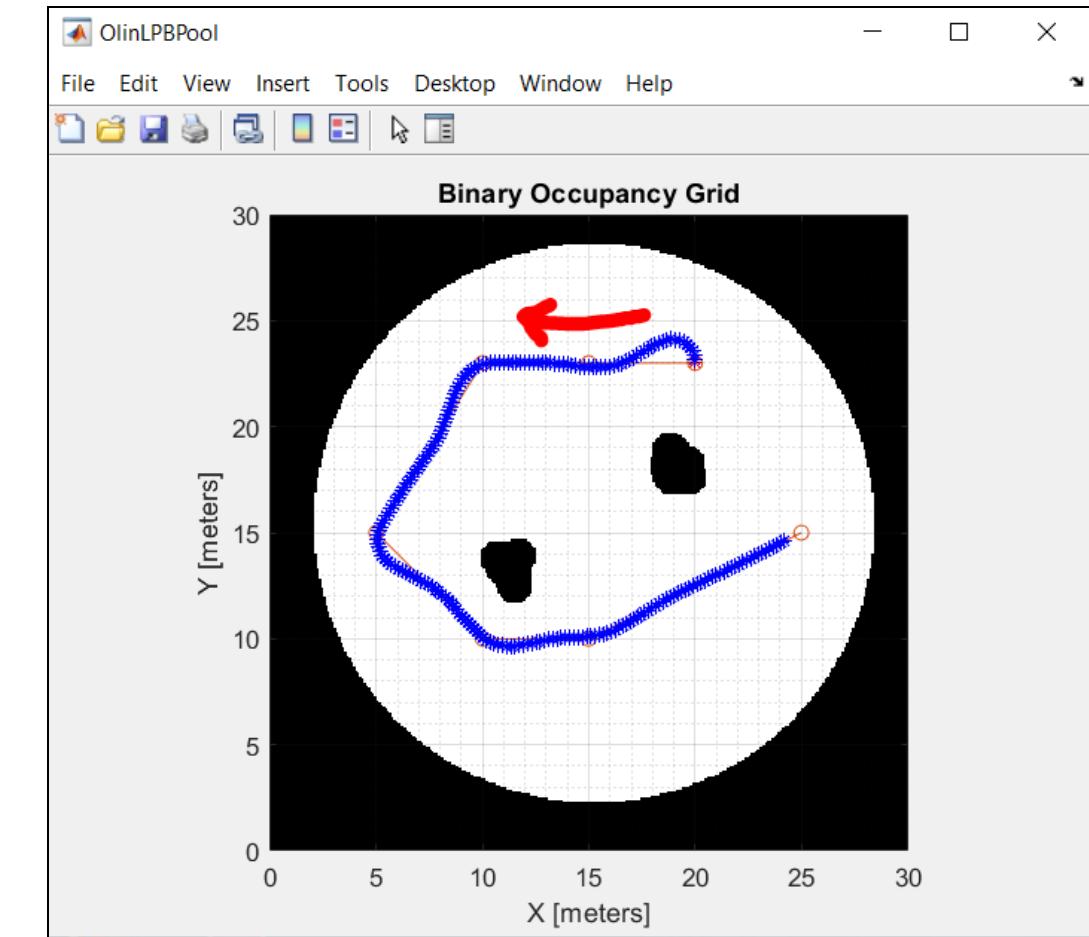
Ok, lets run your new Tug control code next and see what happens, make sure the Tug test bench is properly turned on, the two Pi functions we gave you are in same folder as this program and then run your code from the start:



Your code should pop up an **OlinLPBPool** map, a **TugSharpIRScan** map, and a **localSharpIRMap**, as shown above. And then pause to wait for your command to proceed.

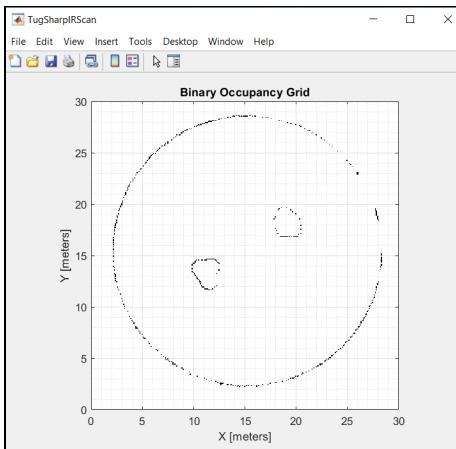


Following that command, your Tug and its pure-pursuit control system should nicely follow the selected waypoints in a circumnavigation of the test pool:

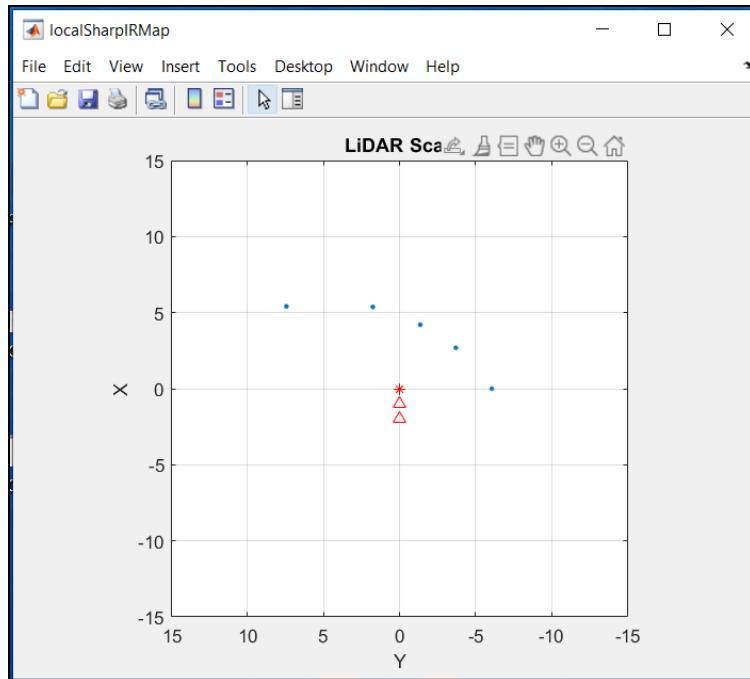


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While it ran you also collected sharp range data and built up a pretty nice map of the pool:



As well as got live data from your 6 forward pointing Sharp IR range sensors:

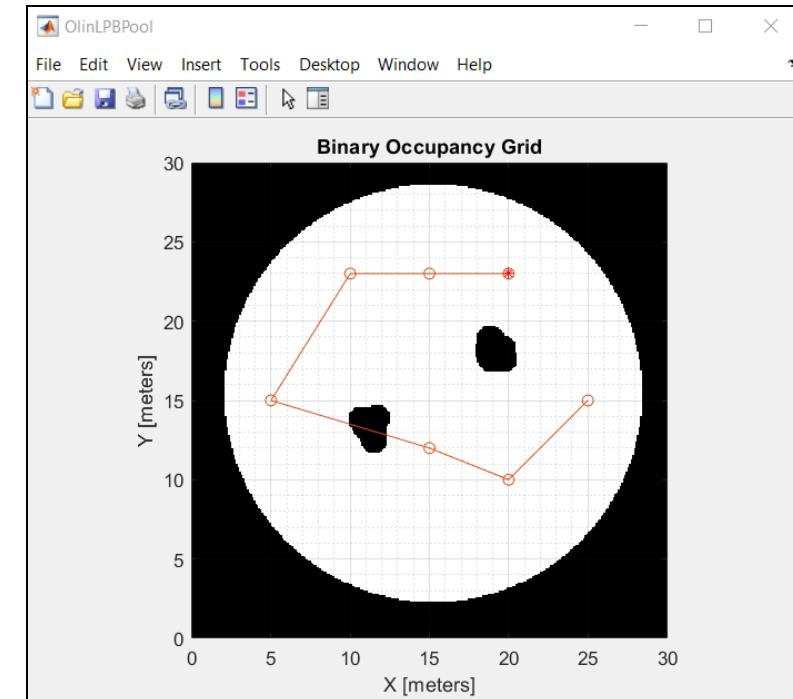


Run the same simulation a few times. Watch the Tug centered Sharp IR screen as your Tug steams through the pool. You will need to develop a good sense of what the sharps can and can't see to develop effective behaviors in the next section of this work. **Congratulations! You've built a great new Robot Tug control system.** If this were a controls class you'd be done. *But it is not!* It's a Robot class, so go back into your code and comment out the first collection of waypoints and un-comment in the second set.

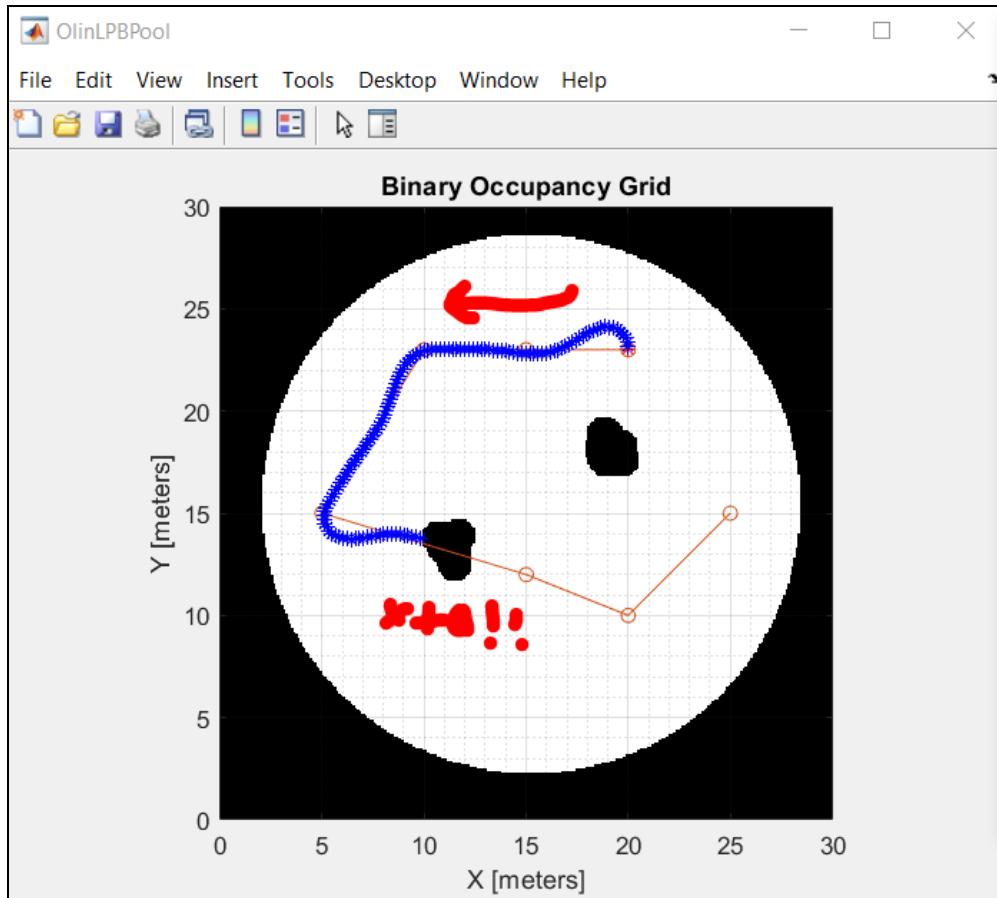
Create a test path of waypoints to sail through the pool for gathering range sensor readings.

```
64 %path = [ 20 23; 15 23; 10 23; 5 15; 10 10; 15 10; 25 15]; % clear path waypoints  
65 path = [ 20 23; 15 23; 10 23; 5 15; 15 12; 20 10; 25 15]; % crash path waypoints  
66
```

Run your code again with the new Tug path waypoints:



And get:



WHAM !!! Congratulations again! You just crashed your Tug head-on, right into an iceberg at full throttle.

This is a somewhat contrived, but graphically convincing example of **the brittleness of using just a control system for a dynamic robot** that has to operate in an ever changing environment. Without perfect sensors and perfect knowledge of all potential obstacles in your operating space and knowledge of not just where they are, but how they are moving, a control algorithm by itself is highly susceptible to generating a set of legitimate commands that will cause a serious crash.

Creating a robust Behaviour Based Control for your Tug

How you go about fixing this, crash into an iceberg problem, is the subject of the second part of this tutorial. Recollecting as a group from the 4 individual pair teams that did the first section, we will ask you to next form one larger integrated team and have each subteam work on generating a part of the needed behavior based robot control code as is described below. Please read through the following section as individuals then form up into Behaviour-Function writing subteams.

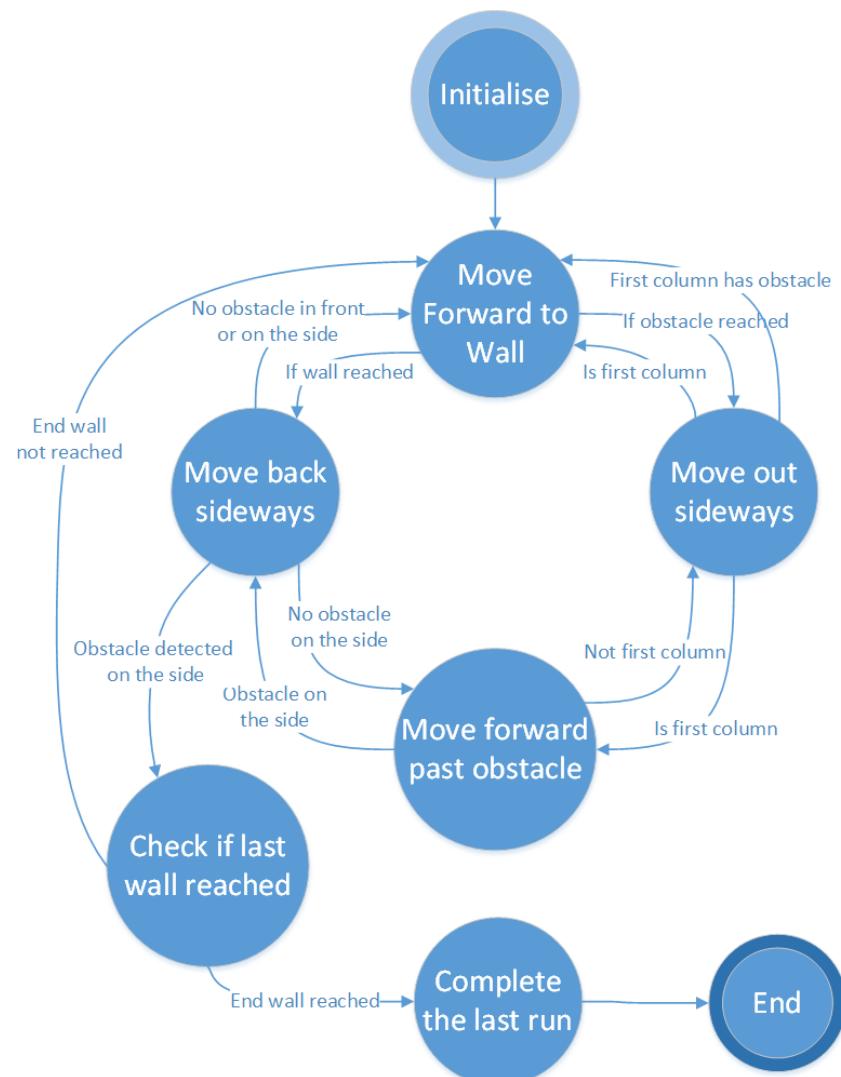
Fundamentals of robot behaviors-based control

Complex robots usually use some form of behavioral control at a higher planning level and classical control at a lower actuator level.

A robot can be conceptually thought of as an independent agent, that at any point in time can be in any one of a large number of **behavioral states**. What a robot state is doesn't need to have a precise definition, but it is usually tied to a set of easily observable actions, like wall-following, wandering, avoiding-obstacles, etc.

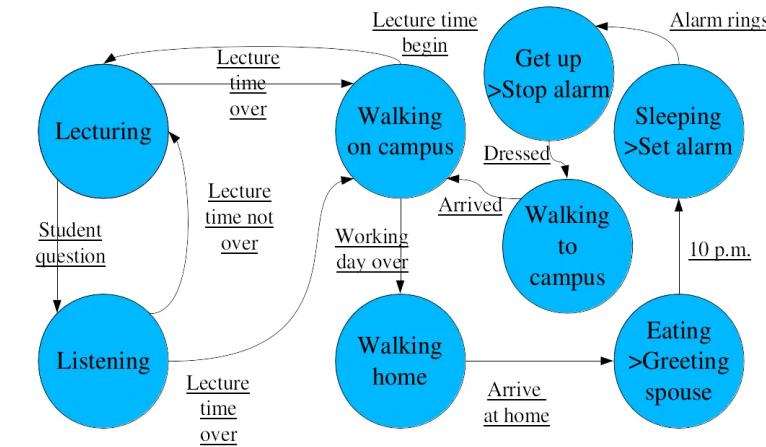
A collection of all possible states that a robot can be in can be shown in a clear, block diagram like, graphic called a **Finite State Diagram**. This diagram traditionally shows not only the states a robot can be in, but also the events that transition the robot from one state to another. In practice, the robot flows from one state to the next along these event paths until the mission is complete or an error that can't be overcome is reached.

This one **FSM** diagram is a very clear, graphical way to portray, not only what the robot is currently doing, but also what your team designed (and hopes) your robot will do. FSM diagrams are also great tools to facilitate critical conversations among your future robot design team members, many of whom won't be active coders. Even a gearhead ME can understand them!

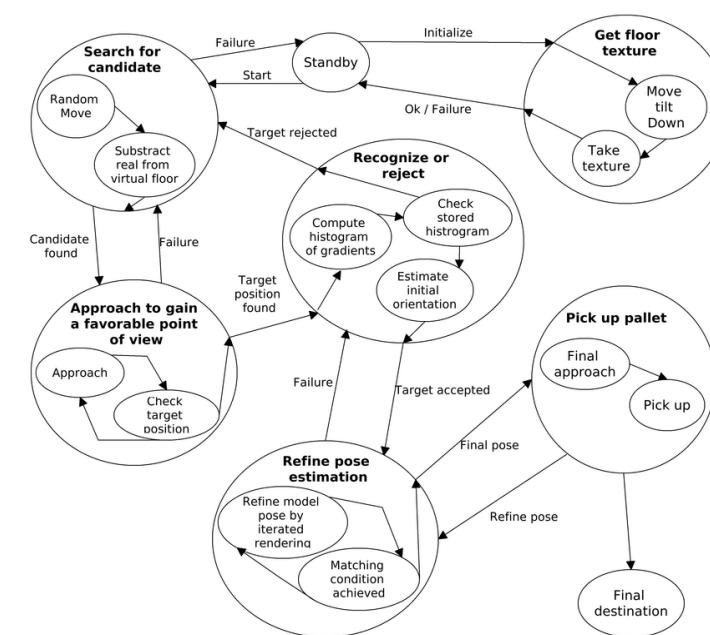


Example Robot Behavior FSM Diagram

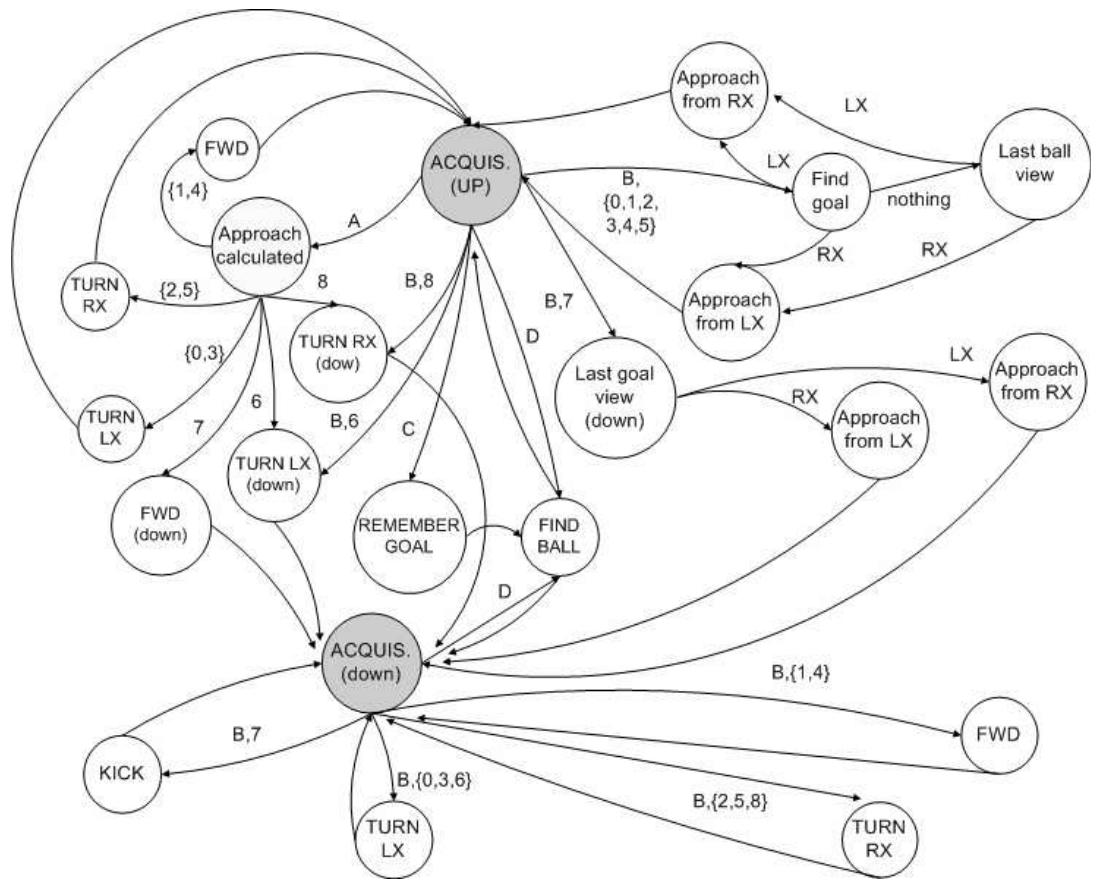
Let's look at a few Finite state machines for robots. Consider a Robot Professor:



A robot warehouse worker:



A Robot soccer player:



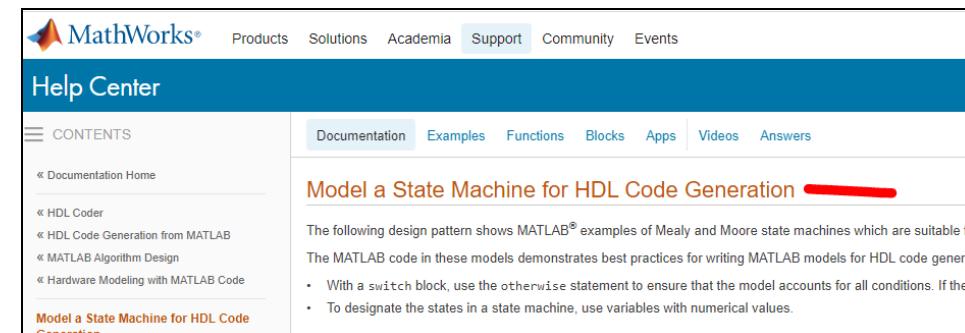
You can see the control flow here, in each of the above cases. The robot is in one of many possible states exhibiting a behavior, it stays in that state until an event occurs to move it to a new state. Over the course of a task or mission, the robot will cycle through many, but probably not all the possible states it could be in. Designing the right subset of states, not too many, not too few is the primary challenge behind developing a good robust robot controller for your Tug.

I'll ask you to pause here and go look at the 4-short 3m video tutorials listed on the Canvas page for this tutorial, about what a finite state machine is and how to draw Mealy or Moore Finite State Machine diagrams before proceeding:

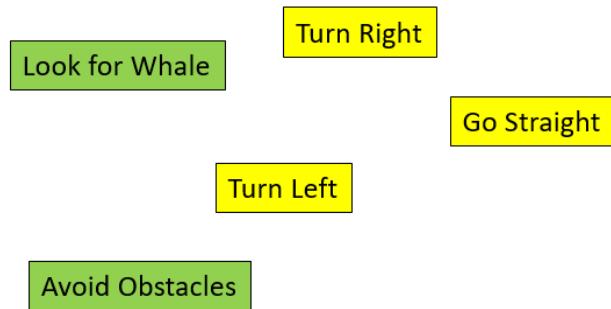


Next please take a quick look at how to code Mealy or Moore finite state machines in Matlab at this reference (summary, **switch** statements make good FSMs):

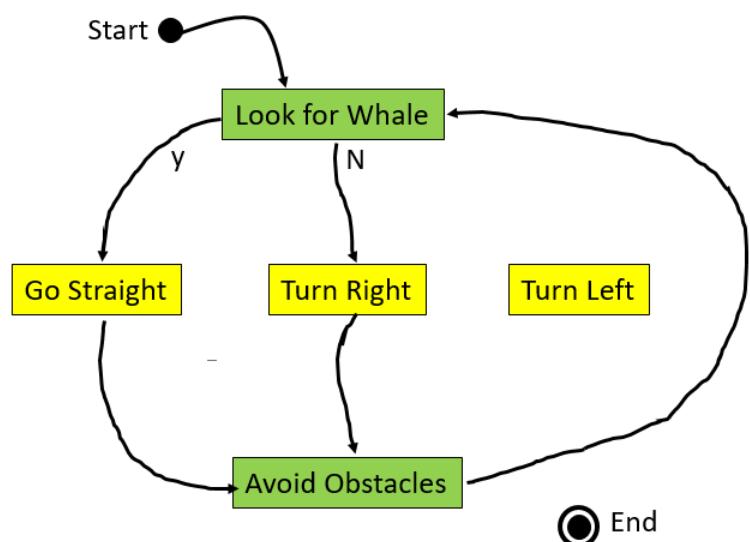
<https://www.mathworks.com/help/hhdlcoder/ug/model-a-state-machine-for-hdl-code-generation.html>



Let's look at creating your first behavior based finite state machine. Consider a simple first case where the robot tug has just five behaviors:



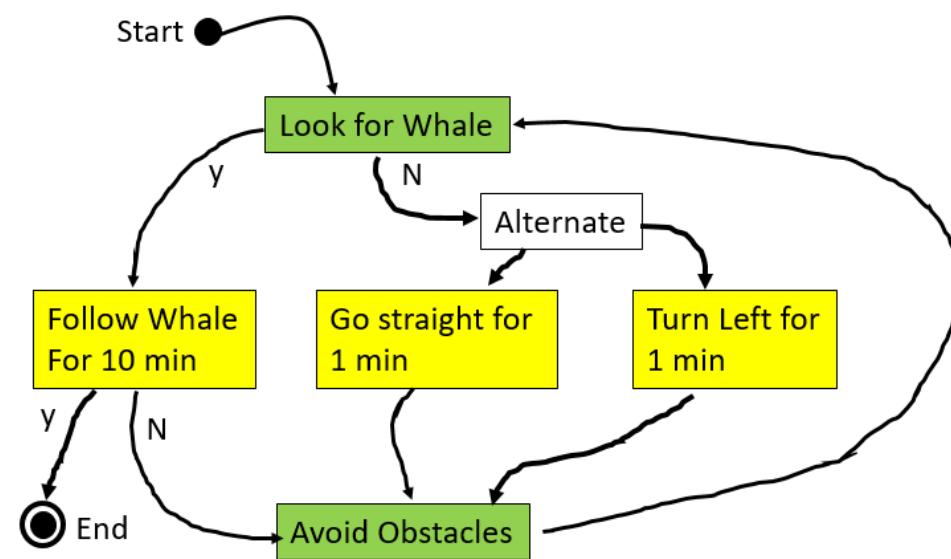
For clarity, we will color code behaviors as Green, for things Tug should always be doing, and Yellow for behaviors that Tug switches between. For example, there is no practical reason to not always look for the NarWhal, but the Tug can only be going straight or turning, it can't be doing both. Let's arrange this into a Finite State Flow:



Here, after starting, the Tug looks for the whale, if it sees it, the **Tug goes straight** toward it, if not, **Tug turns to the right** looking for it. It's not a bad first pass at a

FSM, but it has some deficiencies. We have a behavior we never use, if the Tug doesn't see the whale it just loops to the right in place for ever and there is no pre planned way to finish the mission.

Consider a set of modifications. Add a new behavior that follows the whale by centering it in camera, if the whale isn't seen, **Tug goes straight** for 1 min, then **Tug turns left** for a minute and repeats this random search through the pool until you do find the whale. If you successfully **follow the whale** for 10 minutes, you've collected enough data, call the mission off and let the poor Narwhal rest up a bit!



This is just one of many possible ways to approach an autonomous whale-following mission. Your team will get to design your own behavior based FSM in the final section of this tutorial. But it has all of the necessary features to demonstrate what a FSM looks like and you can see one of the strengths of the FSM method. Everyone on the team can get a very clear common idea of what the robot can and should be doing, whether they wrote code for that part of the flow or not.

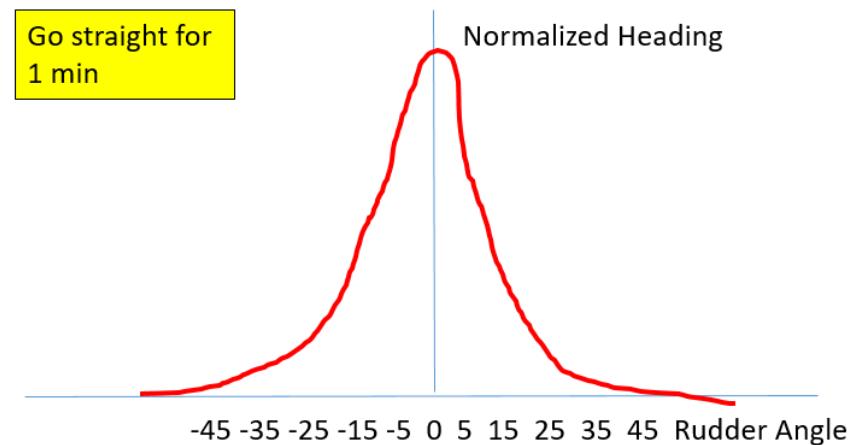
Looking at the diagram, its fairly clear you could just use a Matlab **Switch** statement

```
n = input('Enter a number: ');

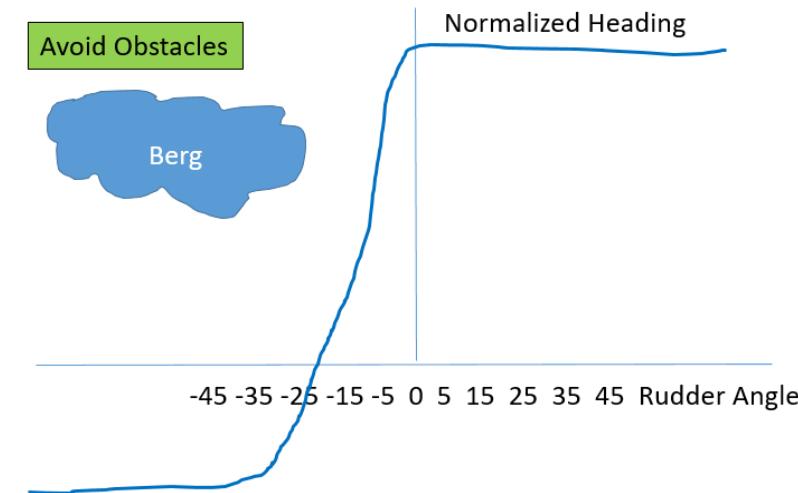
switch n
    case -1
        disp('negative one')
    case 0
        disp('zero')
    case 1
        disp('positive one')
    otherwise
        disp('other value')
end
```

To toggle program flow between the Yellow (do one of, not all) behaviors. And placing each robot behavior into its own Matlab function, would keep you code clean, readable and modular. But one of the classical challenges confronting behavior based robotics is to now best merge commands from multiple behaviors into one set of actuator commands. In this case, we might need to merge the rudder commands for going straight, with the rudder commands for obstacle avoidance to avoid an iceberg right off the bow. This blending of the two desired behavior commands is often done in some form of **Behavior Arbiter**.

Let's look at **behavior arbitration** in a bit more detail. Consider that we create a behavior function for each exclusive yellow state shown in the diagram. In order to achieve robust, real-world tolerant behavior, these functions don't produce a single desired heading, but rather a probabilistic distribution of desired headings with the peak situated at the optimum heading, but with many surrounding possible headings being almost as good. Probabilistic distributions are robust. Take a look at Go straight:

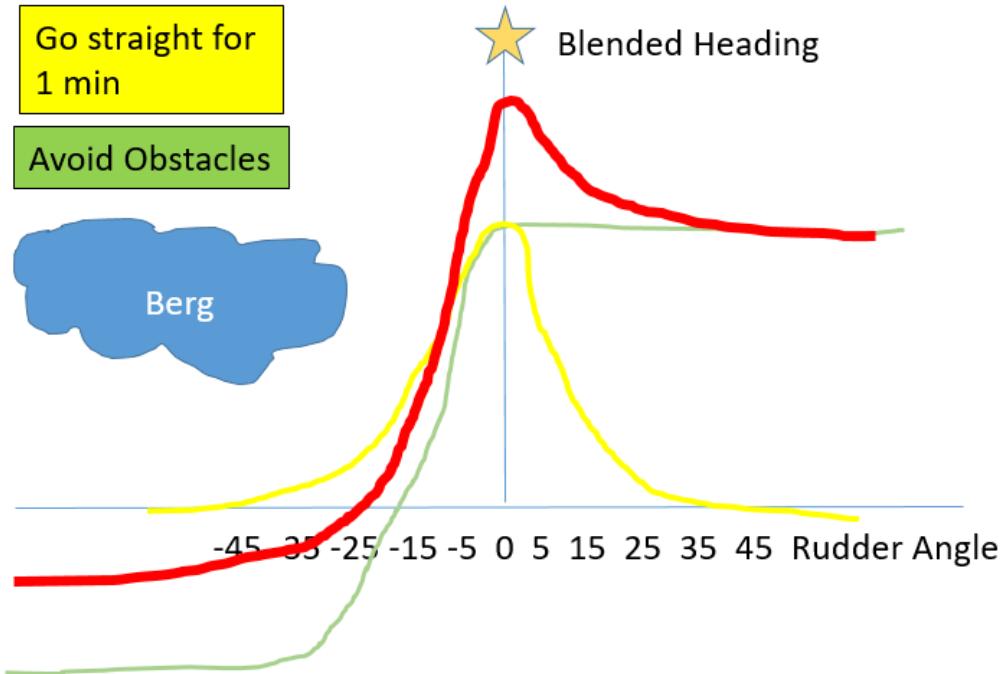


Then consider Obstacle Avoidance behavior that will allow any rudder angle except for those that will cause a collision:



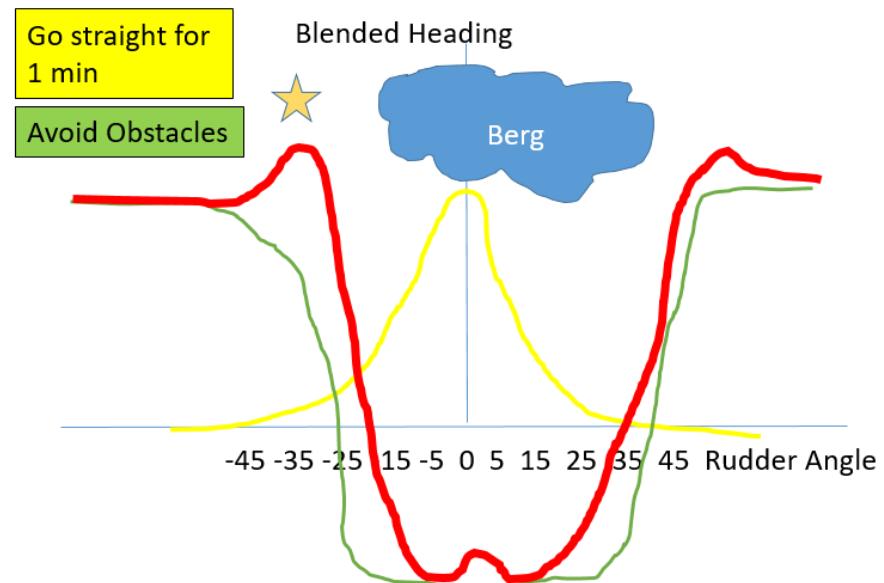
These probabilistic behavior curves are sometimes affectionately called **brain waves**. If we add the two brain waves together and then look for where the

maximum peak is, we are in effect selecting the one best heading that satisfies the goal of both behaviors. **This is a simple behavior arbiter.**



By having each behavior generate a range of probabilistically weighted heading outputs, from more desirable to less, we build in a very robust response to any unknown, unplanned disturbances that the tug encounters as it steams through the pool. If the iceberg drifts in front of the tug away from its mapped position, this will seamlessly handle it. This type of arbiter is often called a weighted poll arbiter and it is central to the THINK part of your robot controller. Using this arbiter, your Tug has moved one step up from a simple control system and is now weighing inputs from several competing behaviors to determine what rudder setting is the best to send on to the Act servo control functions. **In some simple direct way, the Tug is thinking.**

Consider what would happen if we replicated the Tug being commanded by the **Go straight** behavior to crash into an iceberg, as we did in the controls part of this tutorial:



Consulting the behavior brainwave curves above, it can be seen that although the primary **Go Straight** behavior would prefer a heading that would impact the iceberg, it's also ok with heading to the left and right of it. The **Avoid Obstacles** behavior strongly prefers any heading except those that would intersect with the iceberg. When the two desired heading curves are added up into an arbiter curve and its maximum is selected, it can be seen that the tug will safely steam around the iceberg either to its right or left depending on which peak is higher.

Moving this overall concept into Matlab is shockingly easy. If each Tug behavior is a function, then each function just needs to output a weighted vector of desired rudder angles. For example: [0.0 0.1 0.2 0.3 1.0 0.3 0.2 0.1] = GoStraight();

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The arbiter can do a simple vector addition of behavior outputs, find the maximum of that new vector and send the rudder angle that corresponds to that maximum to the ACT code to drive the servos to that desired rudder angle.

In practice you could have one arbiter for each commanded servo motor. One for the rudder and one for the propellor speed. As a conceptual example, there can be many officers on your tug's bridge yelling at the helmsperson to turn the ship's wheel to a certain heading, but the ship's steering wheel can only go to one angle. Your arbiter is the helmsperson that merges all the behaviors desired rudder positions, into a single, arguably best, one that can be sent to the rudder.

Let's move on and write the Matlab code to demonstrate a simple example of this. Open up your **RobotTugControl mlx** and save a new copy as **RobotTugFSM mlx**. Here again, we are going to use the power of building on working existing code, rather than trying to write this all again from scratch.

Your full team can modify the first section as show:

```
RobotTugFSM2021_RevF mlx +
```

RobotTugFSM mlx is a hardware in the loop simulation of a finite state machine controlled robot tug

This code controls an autonomous robot boat performing a simulated missions in the Olin LPB water testing tank.

The fundamental difference between a control system and a robotic system is that a control system doesn't "think" about what to do next. Given one set of inputs, it will always generate the same output. A robot system will take that same set of inputs, consider multiple responses and choose the best output to accomplish the mission. This script will give you hands on experience with a **Finite State Machine** using **Behaviors** and an **Arbiter** to robustly blend multiple synchronous robot behaviors to more robustly accomplish the same mission goal.

Written (pair programmed) by **your name** and **partners name** 2021. Revision A

```
1 clc % clear command window
2 clear % clear MATLAB workspace
```

You can leave most of the **Code that Runs Once** part intact but comment out the path waypoint code as show below (you might want to reuse it latter for your team robot code to help build a waypoint following behavior):

Set up tug control system (code that runs once)

Set up your Raspberry Pi to control tug. Call **TugRaspPiSetup** function to create and configure your Pi. |

Download function from Canvas. See function for documentation on how it works.

```
3 disp('Downloading code to Raspberry Pi may take about 10 sec');
```

Downloading code to Raspberry Pi may take about 10 sec

```
4 [robotPi,rudderServo,propServo, blinkLED, cam] = TugRaspPiSetup();
```

Load a map of Olin Oval test pool (to be built into a Binary Occupancy Grid)

TestPool.png can be downloaded from Canvas too.

```
5 img = imread('TestPool.png'); % load oval image (from Canvas)
6 grayimage = im2gray(img); % convert to grayscale
7 bwimage = grayimage < 0.5; % convert to blackand white
8 MapOfPool = binaryOccupancyMap(bwimage,10); % convert to binaryoccupancymap in meters
9 % comment out
10 % show(MapOfPool); % show map
11 % Inflate the map with the RobotTug size, so tug can be treated as a point. Assume
12 % robot Tug is 0.25m long bow to stern
13 MapOfPoolInflated = copy(MapOfPool); % make a copy, don't lose original data
14 inflate(MapOfPoolInflated, 0.25); % dilate map to accomidate robot body size
15
16 % livescript does some funky stuff when you try to update in line plots quickly, so
17 % create a free floating figure for map to deal with livescript update problem
18 testPool = figure('name','OlinLPBPool','NumberTitle','off','Visible','on'); % go to ovalTrack figure for next plot
19 figure(testPool)
20 show(MapOfPoolInflated);
21 grid on;
22 grid minor;
```

Just go through line by line and make sure there are no small discrepancies.

****Don't close out of the figures when they pop up, since this will result in 'Error using figure'. If you accidentally close them, re-run the code to create the figure again before proceeding****

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Then run and add each code section edit in sequence, debugging as you go.

Create Sharp sensor array:

```
Create a sharpIR range sensor based map of world ( to be filled in as Tug sails around the pool )  
  
23 % Create an empty map of the same dimensions as the test pool map  
24 [mapdimx,mapdimy] = size(bwimage); % find size of map image  
25 sharpIRMap = binaryOccupancyMap(mapdimx,mapdimy,10,"grid"); % make empty map the same si:  
26  
27 % create a free floating figure for map to deal with livescript update problem  
28 tugSharpIRScan = figure('name','TugSharpIRScan','NumberTitle','off','Visible','on');  
29 figure(tugSharpIRScan)  
30     show(sharpIRMap);  
31     grid on;  
32     grid minor;
```

Check through the next section:

```
Create a differential drive robot tug(this model takes robot vehicle speed and heading for inputs)  
  
35 diffDriveTug = differentialDriveKinematics("VehicleInputs","VehicleSpeedHeadingRate");  
  
Create a pure pursuit Tug controller (this controller generates the robots speed and heading needed to follow a  
desired path, set desired linear velocity and max angular velocity in m/s and rad/s)  
  
36 TugController = controllerPurePursuit('DesiredLinearVelocity',2,'MaxAngularVelocity',3);  
  
Create 180 degree sharp IR range sensor suite for your rover.  


- Create a sensor with a max range of 10 meters. This sensor simulates
- range readings based on a given pose and map. The Olin Pool map is used
- with this range sensor to simulate collecting sensor readings in an unknown environment
- Its a little hard to find documentation on rangeSensor function, so right click on it and choose "help" or f1

  
37 sharpIRPod = rangeSensor; % creates a rangeSensor system object see help fo  
38 sharpIRPod.Range = [0.1,10]; % sets minimum and maximum range of sensor  
39 sharpIRPod.HorizontalAngle =[-pi/2, pi/2]; % sets max min detection angle  
40 sharpIRPod.HorizontalAngleResolution = 0.628318; % sets sharp pod resoultion to 6 sensors  
41 testPose = [20 23 pi/2]; % set an inital test pose for lidar  
  
42 % Plot the test spot for lidar scan on the reference Olin Oval Map  
43 figure(testPool) % designate free floating poolTrackMap to  
44 hold on  
45 plot(20,23, 'r*'); % plot robot initial position in pool  
46 hold off
```

Verify your team's code matches:

```
48 % Generate a SharpIR test scan from test position.  
49 [ranges, angles] = sharpIRPod(testPose, MapOfPoolInflated);  
50 scan = lidarScan(ranges, angles);  
51  
52 % Visualize the test lidar scan data in robot coordinate system.  
53 % create a new free-standing figure to display the local sharpIR range data,  
54 % tug at center of plot  
55 localSharpIRPlot=figure('Name','localSharpIRMap','NumberTitle','off','Visible','on');  
56 figure(localSharpIRPlot)  
57 plot(scan) % positive X forward, positive Y left  
58 axis([-15 15 -15 15])  
59 hold on;  
60 plot(0,0, 'r*'); % plot robot position  
61 plot(-1,-0, 'r^'); % plot robot position  
62 plot(-2,-0, 'r^'); % plot robot position  
63 hold off;
```

Comment out waypoint part but save (you may need later):

```
54 Create a test path of waypoints to sail through the pool for gathering range sensor readings.  
55 %path = [ 20 23; 15 23; 10 23; 5 15; 10 10; 15 10; 25 15]; % clear path waypoints  
56 %path = [ 20 23; 15 23; 10 23; 5 15; 15 12; 20 10; 25 15]; % crash path waypoints  
57  
58 % Plot the path on the reference map figure.  
59 %figure(testPool) % select testPoolMap  
60 %hold on  
61 %plot(path(:,1),path(:,2), 'o-'); % plot path on it  
62 %hold off  
63  
64 Use this test path as the set of waypoints the pure pursuit controller will follow:  
65  
66 %TugController.Waypoints = path; % set Tug waypoints
```

Then add a new section to create the figure to hold your robot's **brainwaves** (Do this underneath the section where you set the initial goalWaypoint location and created global variables, but before you run your robot)

```

Create a free floating figure for robot behavior brainwave display _____

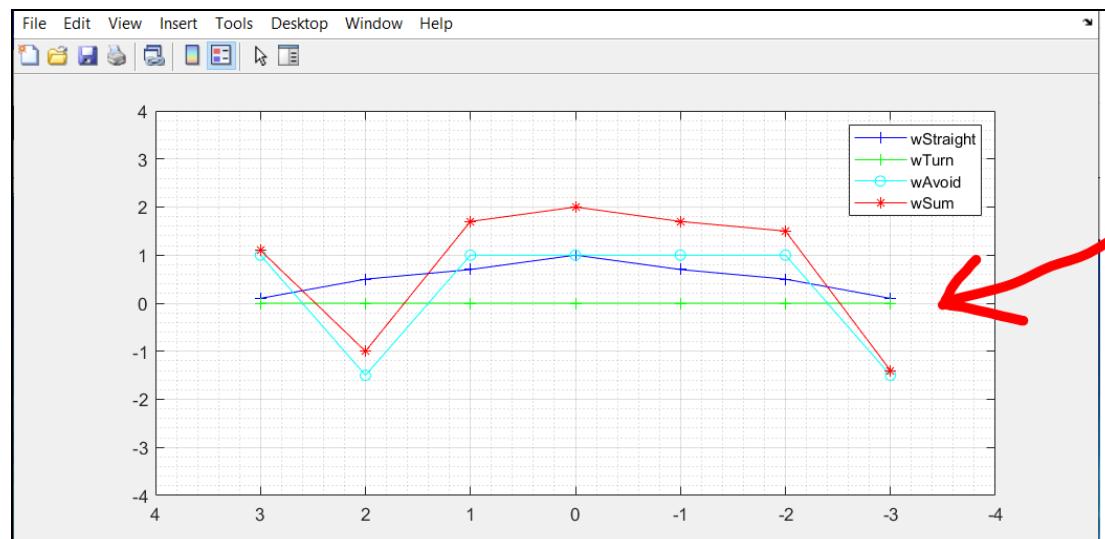
82 % create a free floating figure for map to deal with livescript update problem
83 brainWaves = figure('name','Behavior Brain Waves','NumberTitle','off','Visible','on');
84 figure(brainWaves) % go to brainWave figure for next plot
85 pbrain = plot( [-3 -2 -1 0 1 2 3], [ 0 0 0 0 0 0 0]);
86 axis([-4 4 -4 4]);
87 grid on;
88 grid minor;

Ready to run robot, ask operator if they are set and suggest they move plots to a visible position

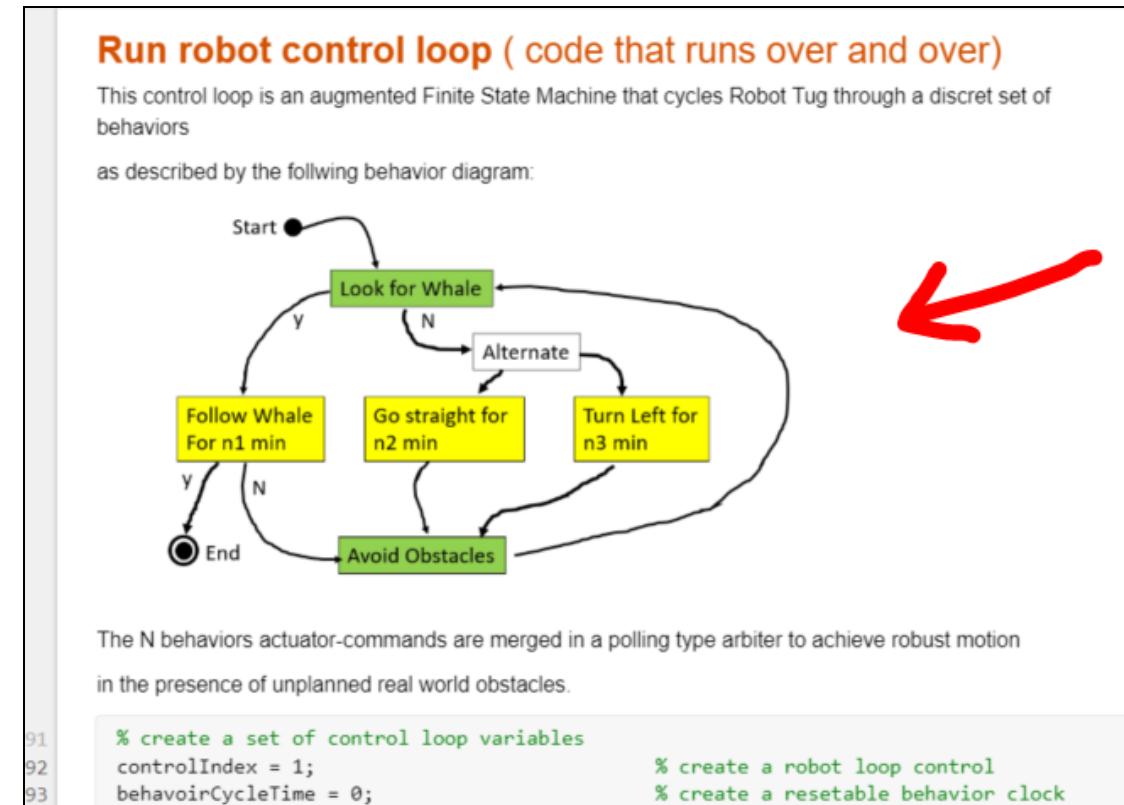
89 runRover = input('Ready to run Tug? Arrange your data plots for clear visibility, then type

```

Which will be critical for **debugging a moving robots behaviors** and states and will look like this:



That was the easy part, now for the heavy lifting, please modify the control loop (code that runs over and over) to have the following header:



One of the really nice things about **Matlab live scripts** is that you can put graphics in the comments. Having your FSM diagram as part of the code is just an awesome help when you are debugging late at night. It can't get separated from the code, can't get lost and every subteam writing functions can use it as a guide to be taking the same mountain. Feel free to cut and paste the tutorial picture for now, to be replaced with your FSM diagram after you create it.

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Next, expand out the set of working variables for the control loop as shown and drop a section break after them to help you with future debugging if needed.

Add variables as shown:

in the presence of unplanned real world obstacles.

```
91 % create a set of control loop variables  
92 controlIndex = 1;  
93 behavoirCycleTime = 0;  
94 followClock = 0;  
95 vStraight = [0 0 0 0 0 0];  
96 wStraight = [0 0 0 0 0 0];  
97 vTurn = [0 0 0 0 0 0];  
98 wTurn = [0 0 0 0 0 0];  
99 vAvoid = [0 0 0 0 0 0];  
100 wAvoid = [0 0 0 0 0 0];  
101 legTime = 20;  
102 vRef=0;  
103 wRef=0;  
104
```

Moving to the **while** loop itself, comment out the end waypoint break code, but leave it there (you might want it later). Then edit the SENSE section by updating the Sharp IR Range sensor **SENSE** function as shown and add a new **IsThereAWhale** function

```
105 while (controlIndex < numel(t)) % loop for number of elements in t  
106 position = robotPoses(:,controlIndex); % rovers current position  
107 tugLocation = position(1:2); % current rover X and Y from position  
108  
109 % End loop if rover has reached goal waypoint within tolerance of 1.0m  
110 % dist = norm(goalWayPoint'-tugLocation);  
111 % if (dist < 1.0) % robot reaches end goal  
112 % disp("Goal position reached")  
113 % break;  
114 % end  
115  
116 % SENSE-----  
117 % SENSE: collect data from Sharp IR sensor array  
118 [ranges, angles] = SENSE(position, MapOfPoolInflated, sharpIRMap ,tugSharpIRScan, localSharpIRPlot, sharpIRPod);  
119 % SENSE: Look for purple Narwhal 0=whaleNotSeen, 1 = whaleSeen  
120 [whaleSeen, headingToWhale] = IsThereAWhale(); % placeholder function for future Pi Cam use  
121
```

The **IsThereAWhale** function will be just a placeholder now that always returns **no whale**. In the next section of this tutorial, you will get to use the Pi Cam on the Tug

and a bit of startup code you can download from the Canvas site to create your own working version of this.

Let's take a look at both SENSE functions in detail:

Sense Functions (store all Sense related local functions here)

```
181 function [ranges, angles] = SENSE(position, mapOfTrack, blankSharpMap, fig_SharpMap, fig_localSharpPlot, lidar)  
182 % SENSE scans the reference map using the range sensor and the current pose.  
183 % This simulates normal range readings for driving in an unknown environment.  
184 % Update the sharp map with the range readings.  
185 % inputs are tug position, mapOfTrack, sharpMap, figure to plot global sharp IR data,  
186 % figure to plot local sharp IR, sensor name  
187 % outputs are sharp IR array ranges and angles in local coordinate system  
188 % Betsy Yu 2021 Rev A  
189  
190 [ranges, angles] = lidar(position, mapOfTrack);  
191 scan = lidarScan(ranges,angles);  
192 validScan = removeInvalidData(scan,'RangeLimits',[0,lidar.Range(2)]);  
193 insertRay(blankSharpMap,position,validScan,lidar.Range(2));  
194  
195 figure(fig_SharpMap);  
196 hold on;  
197 show(blankSharpMap);  
198 grid on;  
199 grid minor;  
200 hold off;  
201  
202 figure(fig_localSharpPlot); % positive X is forward, positive Y left on graph  
203 plot(scan);  
204 axis([-15 15 -15 15])  
205 hold on;  
206 plot(0,0, 'r*'); % plot robot position  
207 plot(-1,-0, 'r^'); % plot robot position  
208 plot(-2,-0, '^'); % plot robot position  
209 hold off;  
210  
211 end  
212
```

And the new **IsThereAWhale** one:

```
213 function [whaleSeen, headingToWhale] = IsThereAWhale()  
214 % IsThereAWhale is a placeholder function for Think lab student generated  
215 % Rsp-Pi Cam code to find and track a purple Narwhal  
216 whaleSeen = 0; % not seen = 0, seen = 1  
217 headingToWhale = 0; % replace with code that converts the x coordinate of whale blob to a tug rudder heading  
218
```

Think Functions (store all Think related local functions here)

It's good coding practice to create placeholder functions like this, when you generate your original code. They help hold the main flow of structure in place. And they can

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then be easily filled out by a sub-team without struggling to not break the main structure of the program.

Finally, getting to the very brain of the robot, please modify the THINK section as shown below, we will go over piece by piece in detail to follow.

```

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% THINK-----
% Check for whale and switch Tug behavior based on positive detection
switch whaleSeen
    case 0      % whale NOT SEEN
        behavoirCycleTime = behavoirCycleTime+1; % increment behavoir alternating clock
        if (behavoirCycleTime < legTime)          % run GoStraight for 10 cycles
            [tugX,tugY,vStraight,wStraight, robotPoses] = THINKGoStraight(robotPoses,sampleTime,diffDriveTug,...)
            controlIndex,vRef,wRef);
            vTurn = [0 0 0 0 0 0];           % if going straight surpress all turning propellor commands
            wTurn = [0 0 0 0 0 0];           % if going straight surpress all turning rudder commands
        else
            [tugX,tugY,vTurn,wTurn, robotPoses] = THINKTurnLeft(robotPoses,sampleTime, diffDriveTug,...)
            controlIndex,vRef,wRef);
            vStraight = [0 0 0 0 0 0];       % if turning surpress all straight propellor commands
            wStraight = [0 0 0 0 0 0];       % if turning surpress all straight rudder commands
        end
        if (behavoirCycleTime > legTime +5)
            behavoirCycleTime = 0;          % reset alternating behavior timer
            legTime = random('Normal', 20, 40); % choose a random transit leg time
        end
    case 1      % whale SEEN
        if (followClock < 10)
            followClock = followClock+1; % increment whale follwing time
            % place student whale following behavior function here
        else
            break;                      % stop loop mission complete
        end
        otherwise
            % assume whale not seen
        end
    % Run Obstacle Avoidance behavior based on Sharp IR range data
    [vAvoid,wAvoid] = THINKAvoid (ranges, angles);

    % Arbitrate behavior outputs
    [vRef,wRef]=THINKTugArbitrator(vStraight,wStraight,vTurn,wTurn,vAvoid,wAvoid,brainWaves);

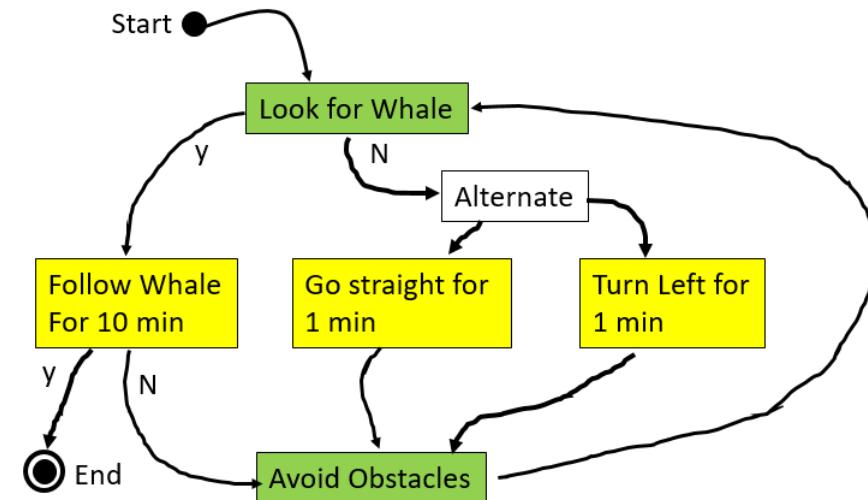
    % Check to see if Tug is hitting a physical obstacle
    crash = checkOccupancy(MapOfPoolInflated,[tugX tugY]);
    if (crash == 1)
        disp('Tug crashed, all stop!');
        break;
    end

```

Looking at the overall structure of the control flow first, there is a **switch** statement that switches between searching behaviors if you haven't seen a whale **case 0** and a following behavior **case 1** if you have. Both cases then feed into an obstacle-avoid

behavior and then all the behaviors feed into the arbiter. The Arbiter blends their individual desired velocity commands all together and drops the resultant Tug linear **vRef** and rotary velocity **wRef** into the following ACT function to carry out.

Jumping back, this is an explicit Matlab code structure that copies the original FSM diagram, show below:



The yellow states are selected by the **switch** structure plus a little logic code, all the states feed into the Avoid Obstacle state, which cycles back to the look for whale state over and over.

Let's look at the **switch** code in more detail:

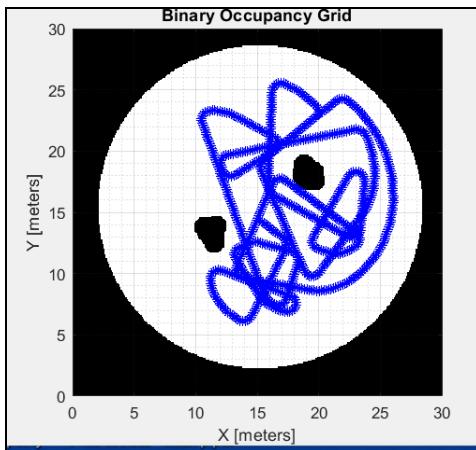
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```

switch whaleSeen
case 0          % whale NOT SEEN
    behavoirCycleTime = behavoirCycleTime+1; % increment behavoir alternating clock
    if (behavoirCycleTime < legTime)           % run GoStraight for 10 cycles
        [tugX,tugY,vStraight,wStraight, robotPoses] = THINKGoStraight(robotPoses,sampleTime,diffDriveTug, ...
            controlIndex,vRef,wRef);
        vTurn = [0 0 0 0 0 0];                  % if going straight supress all turning propellor commands
        wTurn = [0 0 0 0 0 0];                  % if going straight supress all turning rudder commands
    else
        % run TurnLeft for 10 cycles
        [tugX,tugY,vTurn,wTurn, robotPoses] = THINKTurnLeft(robotPoses,sampleTime, diffDriveTug, ...
            controlIndex,vRef,wRef);
        vStraight = [0 0 0 0 0 0];             % if turning supress all straight propellor commands
        wStraight = [0 0 0 0 0 0];             % if turning supress all straight rudder commands
    end
    if (behavoirCycleTime > legTime + 5)
        behavoirCycleTime = 0;                % reset alternating behavior timer
        legTime = random('Normal', 20, 40);   % choose a random transit leg time
    end
end

```

The **switch** statement is driven by **whaleSeen**. If none are, the following code will oscillate between two separate Tug behaviors, going straight and turning left. The length of time spent in each behavior is controlled by a random number generator so that the Tug will get better coverage of the full pool by doing long and short legs around it. If this leg time were fixed, Tug would limit the cycle into a fixed polygon. Instead it will do a pretty decent random search of the full pool:



Let's look at the two internal behavior functions in more detail:

```

function [tugX,tugY,vStraight,wStraight, robotPoses] = THINKGoStraight(robotPoses,sampleTime, diffDriveTug, controlIndex, vRef, wRef)
% THINKGoStraight behavior locks rudder at 0 center position and
% steers Tug straight forward. Calculate derivative of robot motion
% based on control commands.
% inputs are rover poses, loop sampleTime, loop index
% outputs are tugX, tugY, robot poses (position of robot)
% Frank Olin 2021 Rev A

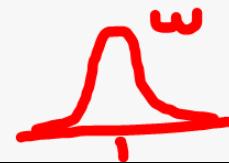
% Replace pure pursuit controller with fixed velocities
% [vRef,wRef] = ppControl(poses(:,loopIndex));
vTug = vRef; % Tug forward velocity is 2 m/sec
wTug = wRef; % Rudder centered, no rotational velocity

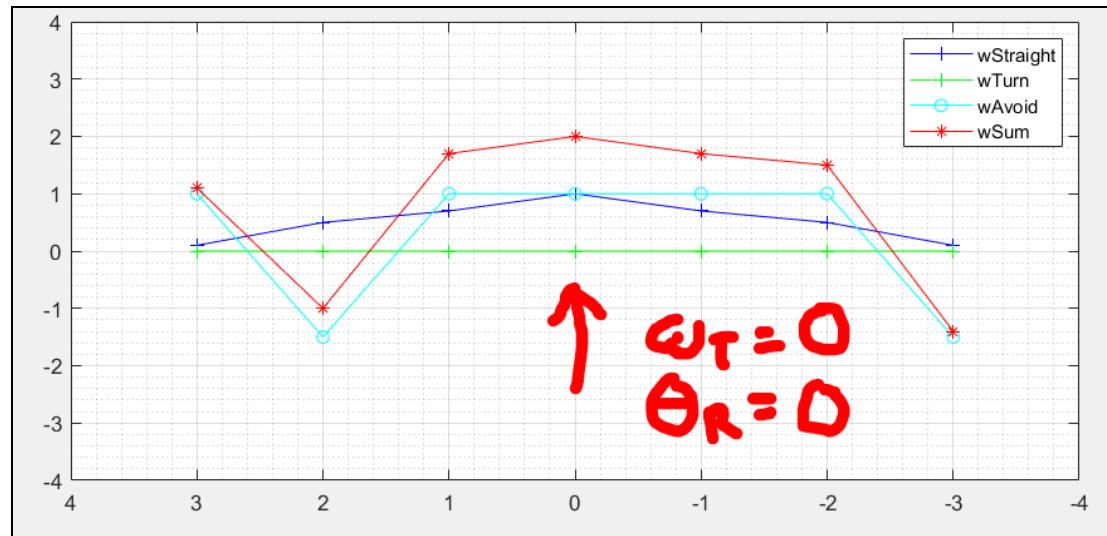
% Perform forward discrete integration step
vel = derivative(diffDriveTug, robotPoses(:,controlIndex), [vTug wTug]);
robotPoses(:,controlIndex+1) = robotPoses(:,controlIndex) + vel*sampleTime;

% Update rover location and pose
tugX = robotPoses(1,controlIndex+1);
tugY = robotPoses(2,controlIndex+1);
vStraight = [0 0.5 1 2 1 0.5 0]; % create pooled desired linear velocity
wStraight = [0.1 0.5 0.7 1 0.7 0.5 0.1]; % create pooled desired angular velocity

```

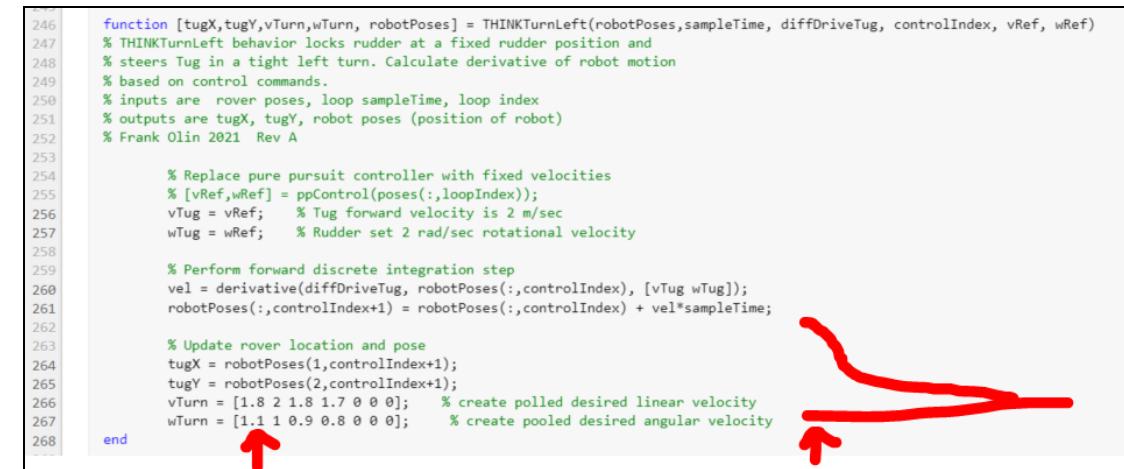
The **ThinkGoStraight** behavior takes in the Tugs current state, figures out its new position and then outputs two vectors **vStraight** and **wStraight** which are seven element distributed desired goals, like $[0\ 0.1\ 0.5\ 1\ 0.5\ 0.1\ 0]$ for the tugs linear and rotational velocity. In many circles they are called **brain waves** because they come from a biological brain model and because they are easy to plot on a brainwave graph. These brain waves make it really easy to watch what each behavior would like to do in near real time, for example the **wStraight** blue trace in the brainwave graph below is a desired rudder at center, seven element, go straight behavior:





In many similar systems, the number of discrete elements in the loosely probabilistic vRef and wRef brain wave vectors is tied back to the resolution of your Tugs primary sensor array. Here we have 6 Sharp IR rangefinders, so the brain wave vectors for all behaviors are 7 elements long. If you had something like a Hokuyo Lidar on board with 270 elements, your brain wave could have much finer resolution.

Taking a look at the ThinkTurnLeft behavior, it operated much the same way as the straight behavior, but produces a brainwave for wRef shifted the far left for a left hand turn:



Returning to the **case 0** statement, both straight and turn behaviors suppress the brain wave output of the other when they are active so that the arbiter is not mixing in incorrect signals. This is subsumption architecture at work.

```

behavoirCycleTime = behavoirCycleTime+1; % increment behavoir alternating clock
if (behavoirCycleTime < legTime) % run GoStraight for 10 cycles
    [tugX,tugY,vStraight,wStraight, robotPoses] = THINKGoStraight(robotPoses,sampleTime,diffDriveTug, ...
        controlIndex,vRef,wRef);
    vTurn = [0 0 0 0 0 0]; % if going straight suppress all turning propellor commands
    wTurn = [0 0 0 0 0 0]; % if going straight suppress all turning rudder commands
else % run TurnLeft for 10 cycles
    [tugX,tugY,vTurn,wTurn, robotPoses] = THINKTurnLeft(robotPoses,sampleTime, diffDriveTug, ...
        controlIndex,vRef,wRef);
    vStraight = [0 0 0 0 0 0]; % if turning suppress all straight propellor commands
    wStraight = [0 0 0 0 0 0]; % if turning suppress all straight rudder commands
end

```

In **case 1** when the whale is seen, code is left to your team to design. It has just enough structure in place to hold your whale following behaviors and not more.

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```

142 case 1 % whale SEEN
143 if (followClock < 10)
144     followClock = followClock+1; % increment whale following time
145     % place student whale following behavior function here
146 else
147     break; % stop loop mission complete
148 end
149 otherwise
150     % assume whale not seen

```

The final bit of THINK code contains three functions, two you write, one is part of the Matlab robotics toolbox:

```

151 end
152 % Run Obstacle Avoidance behavior based on Sharp IR range data
153 [vAvoid,wAvoid] = THINKAvoid (ranges, angles); _____

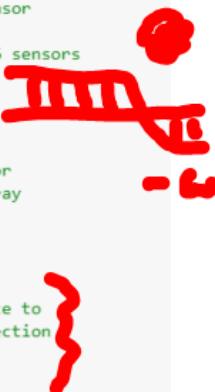
154 % Arbitrate behavior outputs
155 [vRef,wRef]=THINKTugArbiter(vStraight,wStraight,vTurn,wTurn,vAvoid,wAvoid,brainWaves); _____

156 % Check to see if Tug is hitting a physical obstacle
157 crash = checkOccupancy(MapOfPoolInflated,[tugX tugY]); _____
158 if (crash == 1)
159     disp('Tug crashed, all stop!');
160     break;
161 end
162
163

```

The last one, **checkOccupancy** is the built in toolbox function and will tell you if any particular location in an occupancy grid is free or has an object in it. If we check the Tug's current position, with it, each time the loop runs, we can tell if the Tug has hit an obstacle. When it does, the **break** statement jumps out of loop and simulation terminates. This is the equivalent of crashing in real-life.

Let's look at the other two functions in some detail. The **THINKAvoid** function takes in the SharpIR array's range data and uses it to create an obstacle avoidance brainway that will let the Tug go in any direction unhindered, except in the direction of a nearby obstacle. Please create the following code for it:



```

270 function [vAvoid,wAvoid] = THINKAvoid (ranges, angles);
271 % THINKAvoid behavior takes in the ranges from the Tugs Sharp Ir array and
272 % converst them into a set of polled linear and rotational velocity
273 % designed to avoid crashing into percieved obstacles
274 % sharpIRPod.Range = [0.1,10]; sets minimum and maximum range of sensor
275 % sharpIRPod.HorizontalAngle =[ -pi/2, pi/2]; sets max min detection angle
276 % sharpIRPod.HorizontalAngleResolution = 0.628318; sets sharp pod resoulution to 6 sensors
277 % Frank Olin 2021 Rev A
278
279 starboardSensors = ranges(1:3); % Sharp IRS pointing right
280 portSensors = ranges(4:6); % Sharp IRs pointing left
281 middleSensor = (ranges(3)+ranges(4))/2; % make up a virtual middle sensor
282 s1 = vertcat(starboardSensors,middleSensor); % add virtual middle to left array
283 sensorArray = vertcat(s1,portSensors); % add right array
284 TF = isnan(sensorArray); % find any Nan values
285 sensorArray(TF)= 30; % replace NaN values
286 for iScanTransform =1:7
287     if(sensorArray(iScanTransform) < 7) % if range is shorter than N vote to
288         sensorArray(iScanTransform)= -1.5; % not turn in this sensor direction
289     else
290         sensorArray(iScanTransform)= 1; % else can turn this way
291     end
292 end
293 wAvoid = sensorArray'; % flip vertical ranges to horizontal wAvoid
294 wAvoid = flip(wAvoid); % flip array to match tp down boat coordinate system
295 vAvoid =[0 0 0 0 0 0]; % set better slow down velocity policy in your student arbiter
296 end

```

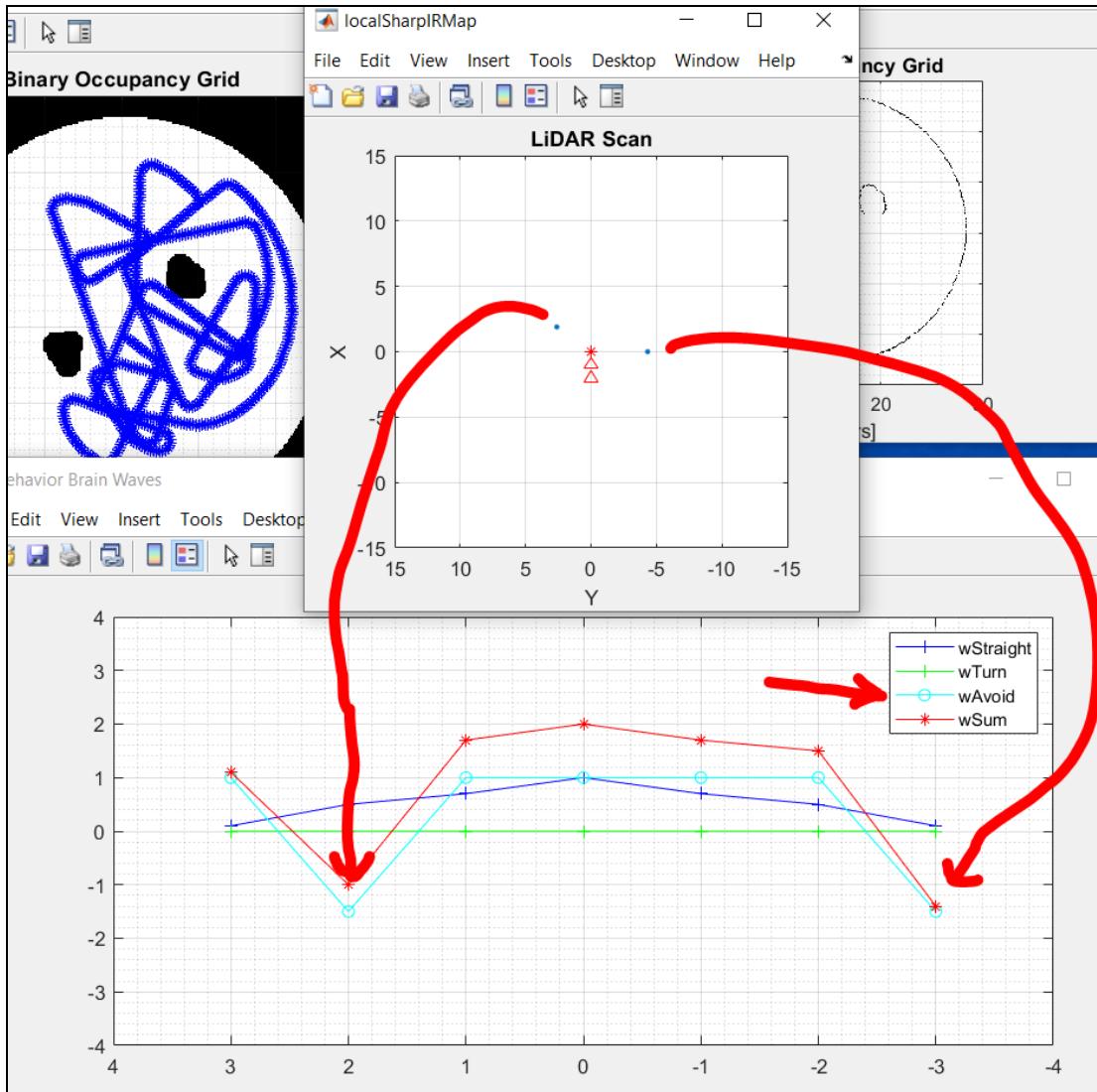
The first part of the code pads the 6 sharp IRs out to 7 by creating a virtual center IR that averages the ranges of the right and left front one. This gives the array and then the brainwave it generates symmetry around the Tugs main axis. Straight ahead is then zero wRef.

The next bit of code finds any NaNs (not a number) in the sensor data and replaces it with an arbitrarily long value of 30. The arbiter can't deal with Nans when adding up waves. The **if** statement loads the wRef brainwave with a constant -1.5 if an obstacle is seen closer than 7 meters from the Tug and +1 otherwise. This is a pretty basic Obstacle Avoid system, go or no go, you could write one based on actual linear sensor range that would be much more elegant (and more robust).

The final part flips the command array so that it will match a top down view of the tug to make it easier for human operators to figure out what is going on.

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Here is an example where you can see the **Obstacle Avoid Behavior** (in cyan) is voting against wRef turn rates that would head into the two obstacles it can see, while allowing all other headings:



Finally all the brain wave vectors from all running behaviors, go to the very heart of your tug's brain, its behavior arbiter. Please create the code below.

```

299 function [vRef,wRef]=THINKTugArbiter(vStraight,wStraight,vTurn,wTurn,vAvoid,wAvoid, brainWaves)
300 % THINKTugArbiter takes in the desired outputs of the Robot Tugs
301 % many behaviors, merges just the headings into a single rudder position.
302 % Speed arbitration can be added by student teams for better performance
303 % Frank Olin 2021 Rev A
304
305 turnSpeeds = [ 3 2 1 0 -1 -2 -3]; % create a vector of possible turn rates
306
307 figure(brainWaves)
308 clf
309 plot( turnSpeeds, wStraight, "b+-");
310 ax=gca;
311 ax.XDir = 'reverse';
312 axis([-4 4 -4 4]);
313 grid on;
314 grid minor;
315 hold on
316 plot( turnSpeeds, wTurn, "g+-");
317 plot( turnSpeeds, wAvoid, "c-o");
318
319 vSumOfWaves = vStraight + vTurn + vAvoid; % sum velocity waveforms
320 wSumOfWaves = wStraight + wTurn + wAvoid; % sum rotational velocity waveforms
321 plot(turnSpeeds, wSumOfWaves, "r-*");
322 legend('wStraight','wTurn','wAvoid','wSum') % label plot
323 hold off
324
325 [vMaxValue, vMaxIndex] = max(vSumOfWaves); % Find peak of summed waveform
326 [wMaxValue, wMaxIndex] = max(wSumOfWaves); % Find peak of summed waveform
327
328 vRef= vSumOfWaves(vMaxIndex);
329 vRef=2;
330 wRef= turnSpeeds(wMaxIndex);
331 end

```

This is a very simple summation-maximum arbiter. It is a simple example that only sets the **wRef** turn rate and holds the **vRef** linear speed of tug constant. It adds up all the incoming brain **wRef** wave vectors, then finds the maximum value of the resulting **wSumofWaves** vector and then maps that maximums index into a lookup table of possible turn rates stored in **turnSpeeds**. You can see the arbiter at work plotting out all the incoming brainwaves and then the **wSum** wave in the plot on the previous page. In this case, the maximum is in the center because both the go straight and obstacle avoid behaviors agree most highly there (add up to highest value).

As part of your follow on project work, you can design a better version of this, perhaps arbitrating speed as well.

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Moving on to the ACT section, it's mostly unchanged

```
163      end  
  
164  
165      % ACT-----  
166      % command robot actuators  
167      ACT(tugX, tugY, vRef, wRef, rudderServo, propServo, testPool); //  
  
168      controlIndex = controlIndex + 1;    %increment control loop index  
169      waitfor(r);                      % wait for loop cycle to complete  
  
170      end
```

With the additional work of creating this fully fleshed out **ACT** function

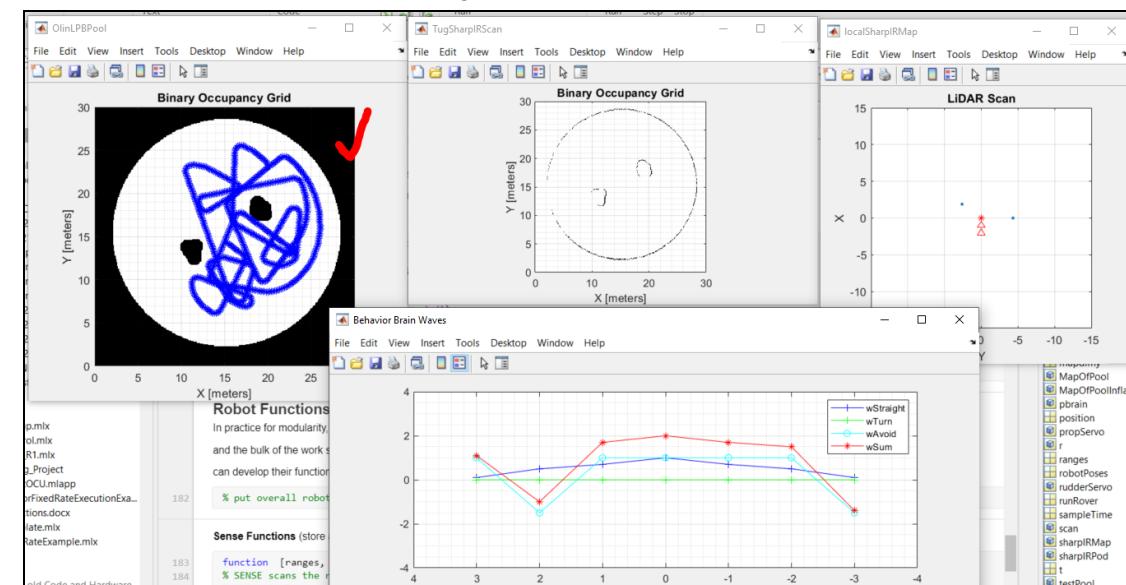
```
Act Functions (store all Act related local functions here)  
  
function ACT(tugX, tugY, vRef, wRef, rudderServo, propServo, fig_testTrack)  
% ACT Increment the robot pose based on the derivative.  
% inputs are current X and Y position of rover and figure to plot rover in.  
% outputs are no outputs  
% Frank Olin 2021 Rev A  
    %Plot Tug location in pool  
    figure(fig_testTrack)  
    hold on  
    plot(tugX,tugY, 'b*');           % plot robot position in oval  
    hold off  
  
    % Drive Tug hardware serco motors  
    rudderAngle = wRef*15;          % convert angular rate wRef to rudder degrees  
    propSpeed = vRef;               % vref (-2 to 2 m/sec)  
    ok = TugServoControl(rudderServo, propServo, rudderAngle, propSpeed);  
  
end
```

This new ACT function draws the Tug on the test pool plot and also uses a Fun-Robo supplied function ([download from Canvas](#)) called **TugServoControl** that will drive your Tugs rudder and propellor in real-life in a hardware-in-the loop simulation of the Tug actually motoring around the LPB pool. This is a THINK lab, so we want you to focus on that part of your Tug and so supply this function. But don't fret, you either learned about RC servo control on a Raspberry pi in the previous lab or you will in the following one.

Wrapping up this code, please edit the last shut down section as shown:

```
174  
175  
176      Clean shut down  
177      finally, with most embedded robot controllers, its good practice to put  
178      all actuators into a safe position and then release all control objects and shut down all  
179      communication paths. This keeps systems from jamming when you want to run again.  
  
180      % Stop program and clean up the connection to Raspberry Pi  
181      % when no longer needed  
182      writePosition(rudderServo, 90);      % always end servo at 0.5  
183      writePosition(propServo, 90);        % always end servo at 0.5  
184      clc  
185      disp('Raspberry Pi program has ended');  
  
186      Raspberry Pi program has ended  
  
187      clear robotPi  
188      beep  
189      % play system sound to let user know program is ended
```

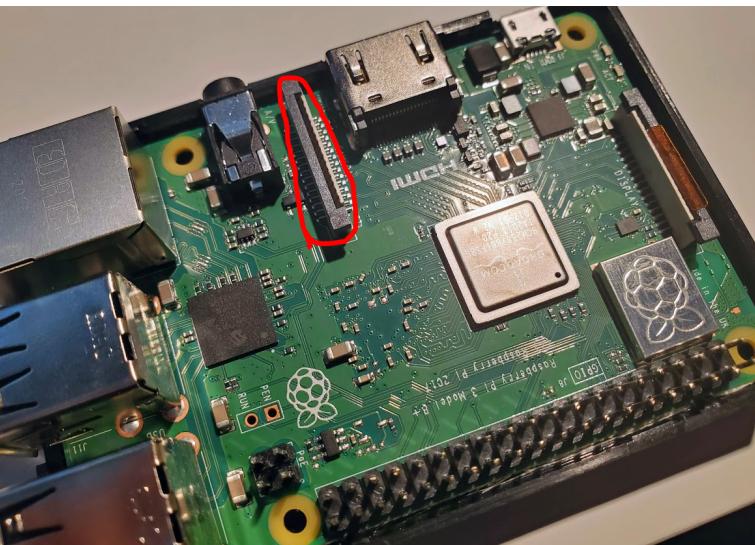
When you run your code, you should get a fully autonomous Tug steaming around the pool in a quasi random pattern, cleanly avoiding hitting walls and icebergs. Please note the robust iceberg handling compared with your previous control system program crashing straight into one. **This is a graphic depiction of the difference between a robot and a control system.**



Brief walkthrough of PiCam Whale tracking code

Before moving on to your final task, writing your own Tug THINK code, we are going to provide you a working Whale Tracking Function for the Tugs Pi-Cam. You will either have worked previously with this camera in the SENSE lab or will work with it after this one.

To start, you will need to install your Pi-Cam if you haven't already. To do this, lift up the black tab on the port labeled "Camera" on your board (note that the "Display" port looks very similar - be careful not to plug your camera into this one or it won't work!)



Take note of the direction of the ribbon cable. The blue stripe (non-conductive side) should face towards the ports on the board. If you have a case, now would be a good time to feed the ribbon cable through. Insert the ribbon cable, and press down on the black clip to secure it. When installed correctly, the cable should not come out when gently tugged.



Installed Pi-Cam ribbon cable

Now that we have the Pi-Cam installed, let's walk through how to use it with Matlab! In this example, we will use Matlab's colorThresholder function to specify a target to track based on color, which will work well for narwhal-tracking. A working example of the code referenced in this section can be found in the [file PiCamExample mlx on canvas](#).

To start, if the Raspberry pi is not yet connected, we'll need to connect to it

```
1 % Clear old vars  
2 clear  
3 % Connect to raspi  
4 rpi = raspi()
```

After connecting to the Raspberry pi, we can use the cameraboard() function to connect to the Pi-Cam. Optionally, we can set the resolution here too.

```
5 % Note: use webcam function instead if using a USB camera  
6 cam = cameraboard(rpi, 'Resolution', '1280x720')
```

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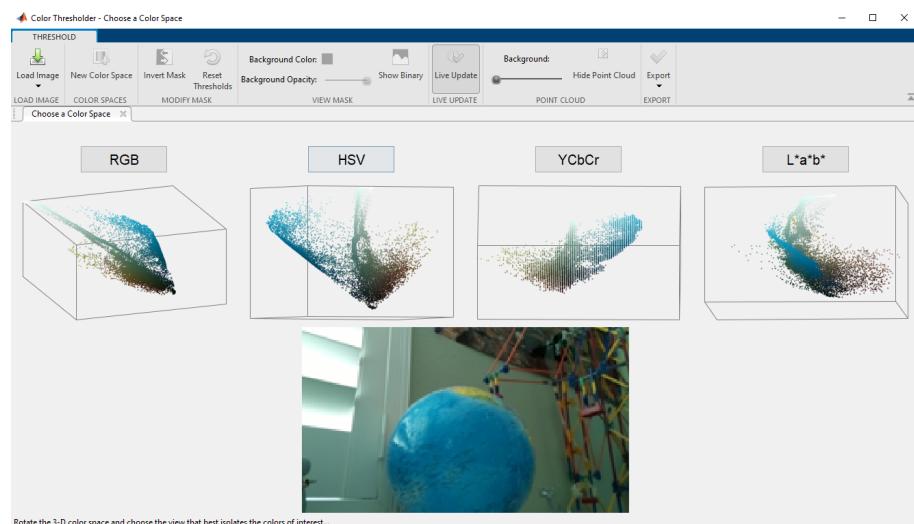
In order to capture an image to work with, we need to call Matlab's snapshot() function. We can use imshow() to display the image inline, which is helpful for debugging.

```
% Take a photo using the camera  
img = snapshot(cam)  
  
% Display image  
figure, imshow(img)
```

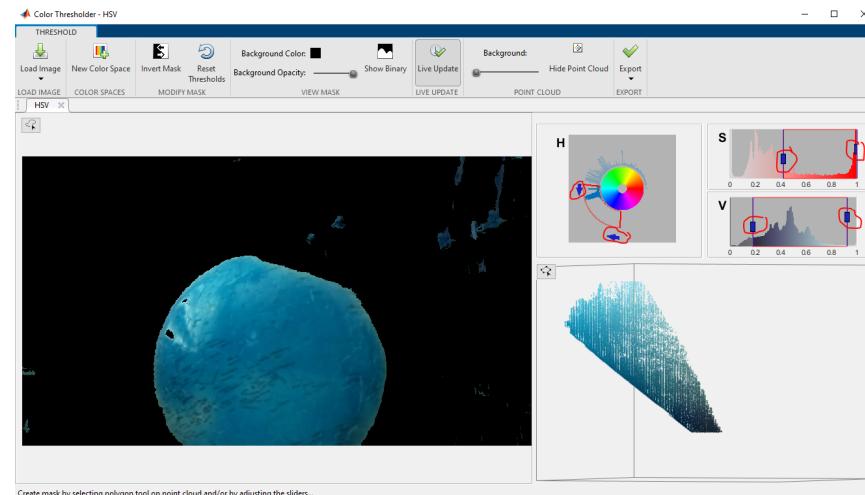
In order to select a colored target to track, hold the target in front of the camera and call the snapshot() function to update the img variable. Once you have a photo you're happy with, pass it into the colorThresholder function. This should open up a separate GUI window.

```
colorThresholder(img)
```

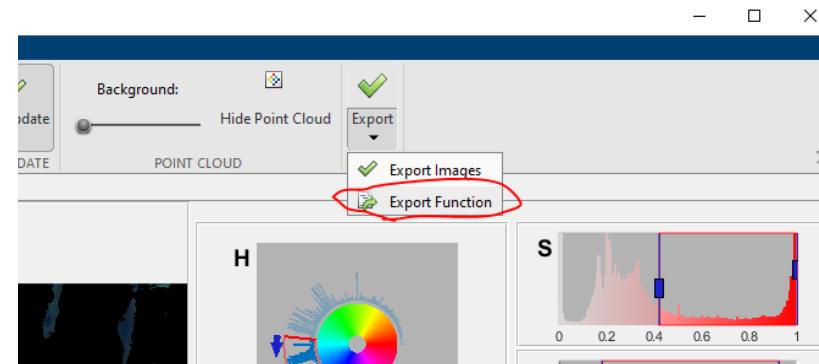
On the first page of the GUI, select a color space of your choice (HSV generally works pretty well, but any of these should work - feel free to experiment with different ones!)



On the next page, adjust the sliders until only the target color remains visible (it's ok if it's not perfect, but the better the sliders are tuned the better your target tracking will be!)



When you're done, click Export>Export Function



A new window will pop up - copy/paste the newly created createMask function at the bottom of the notebook (be sure to replace the existing createMask function). This function will apply the color thresholding settings you just created to any image that is passed into the function.

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Now that we have a function to isolate the color of the target we want to track, let's write our whale tracking function! The code to do this is as follows:

```
74 function [targetX, targetY] = findWhale(frame, displayBool)
75 % Use our auto-generated function to extract regions of the image that
76 % are the color we want
77 [BW, maskedRGBImage] = createMask(frame);
78
79 % Create labels for all regions
80 [L, num] = bwlabel(BW, 8);
81
82 % Compute size of each continuous region, find largest region
83 count_pixels_per_obj = sum(bsxfun(@eq,L(:),1:num));
84
85 % Create new mask that only contains largest region
86 [~,ind] = max(count_pixels_per_obj);
87 biggest_blob = (L==ind);
88
89 % Compute center of this region
90 s = regionprops(biggest_blob,'centroid');
91 centroids = cat(1,s.Centroid);
92
93 % Assign center of largest region to our output variables
94 targetX = centroids(1);
95 targetY = centroids(2);
96
97 % Display the results
98 if displayBool
99     figure,
100     % Display original image
101     subplot(311),imshow(frame)
102     % Display color-masked image
103     subplot(312),imshow(BW)
104     % Display the largest blob with the center marked
105     subplot(313),imshow(biggest_blob)
106     hold on
107     plot(centroids(:,1),centroids(:,2),'b*')
108     hold off
109
110     fprintf(['X-pixel value: %.4f \n'], targetX)
111     fprintf(['Y-pixel value: %.4f \n'], targetY)
112
113 end
end
```

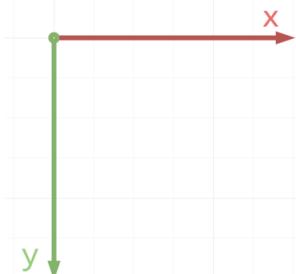
At a high level, the steps that this function walks through are

1. Use the `createMask` function from the previous step to create a masked image where only the selected color range is visible
2. For each “connected” region, create a unique label and compute the size of the region
3. Create a new mask that only contains the largest region
4. Compute the “center of mass” of the largest region
5. Return the x and y pixel values of the center of the region

Now that we have this function, we can use it for tracking!

```
% Choose whether to display frames for debugging
displayFrames = true;
[whaleX, whaleY] = findWhale(img, displayFrames);
```

Aside: When using this function, it's important to note the coordinate system of the `targetX` and `targetY` values. In Matlab and most other image-processing software, the origin is located at the upper left of the image, with the x-axis pointing right and the y-axis pointing down. Keep this in mind if you plan on using this function to control your tugboat!



Matlab image coordinate system

Developing your Tug Hardware-in-the-Loop code

Adding in the actual physical tug hardware is fairly straightforward, you just need to control three motors; the RC motor directly linked to the twin rudders, the paired DC motors that spin the propellers and the turntable motor that makes the tug spin on the test cart.



Please note: When turning the lab cart hardware on, a monitor, keyboard mouse and Raspberry Pi power are all plugged in together. **YOU MUST UNPLUG Pi-cables IF YOU ARE GOING TO DRIVE TURNTABLE!**

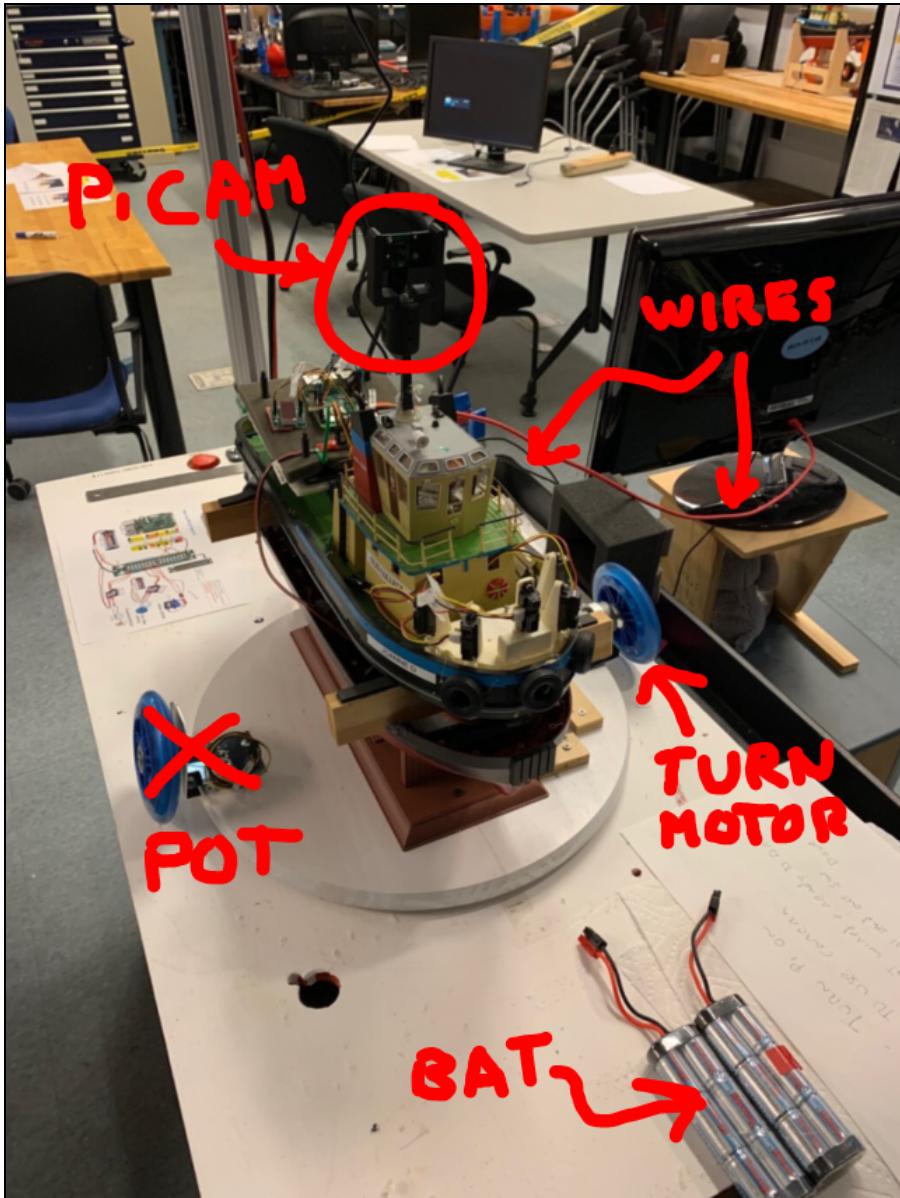
For convenience getting Pi up and developing software on it, the tugs Raspberry Pi is connected to a lot of land based hardware. Once Pi is up and running, you can collect camera images and run rudder and props all ok with this shore wiring in place, but if you drop the turntable drive wheel into contact with the cart, the tug will spin, tear out all wires and **you will crap-trash the whole lab. Please don't do that!**

When you have most of the code in place, you can shut down, unplug everything and restart the test cart with the fresh on-tug batteries powering the Pi, drop the turntable drive wheel and then you can do whirling tug dances to your heart's content.

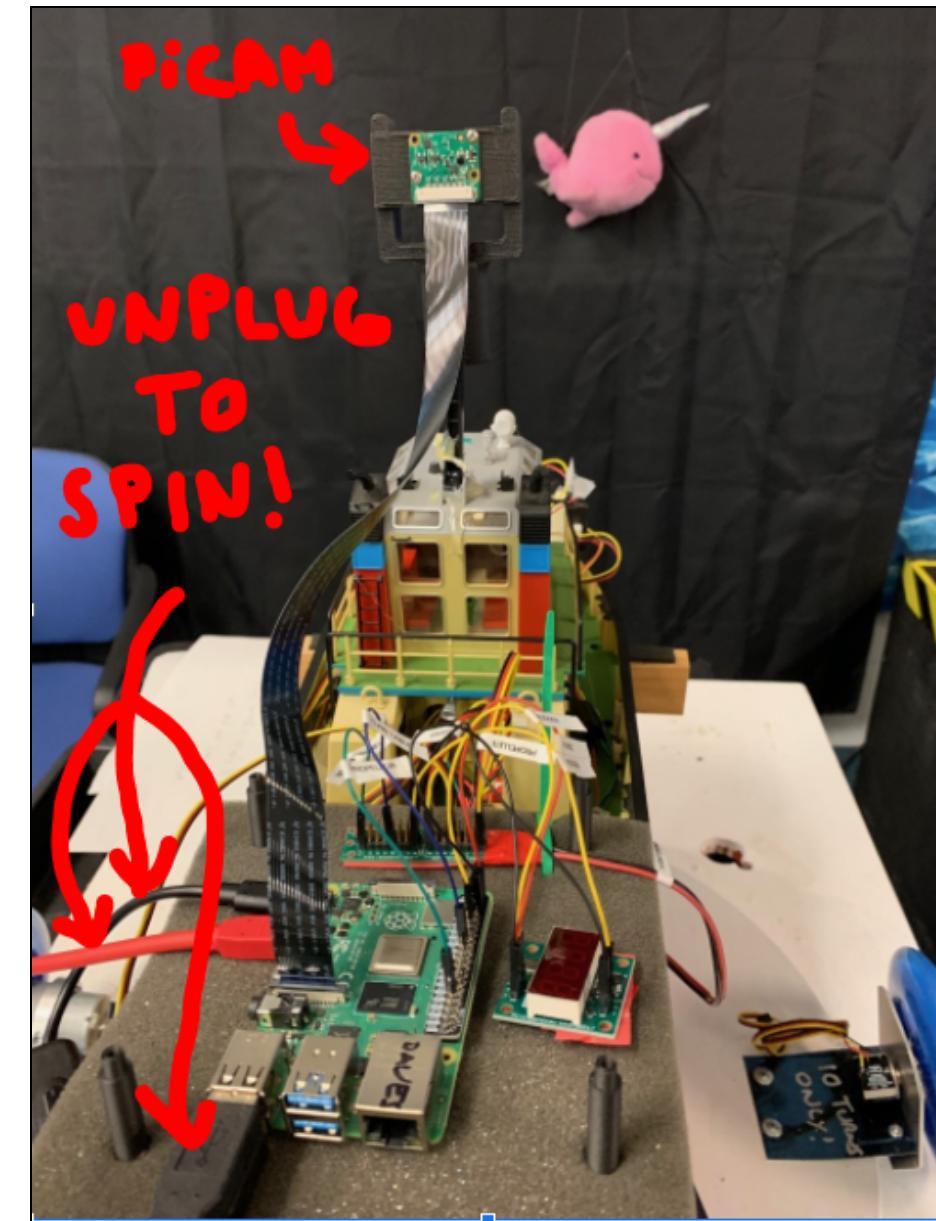
Please see course instructor or Ninja to be trained to carefully plug and unplug (with power off) the Pi and its shore support hardware, how to plug in and run it headlessly off the tug's 5 VDC battery pack and how to drop drive wheel:



Taking a quick walk through the tug hardware-in-loop there is a forward facing Pi-Camera (see next section) up on top of its flying bridge mast:

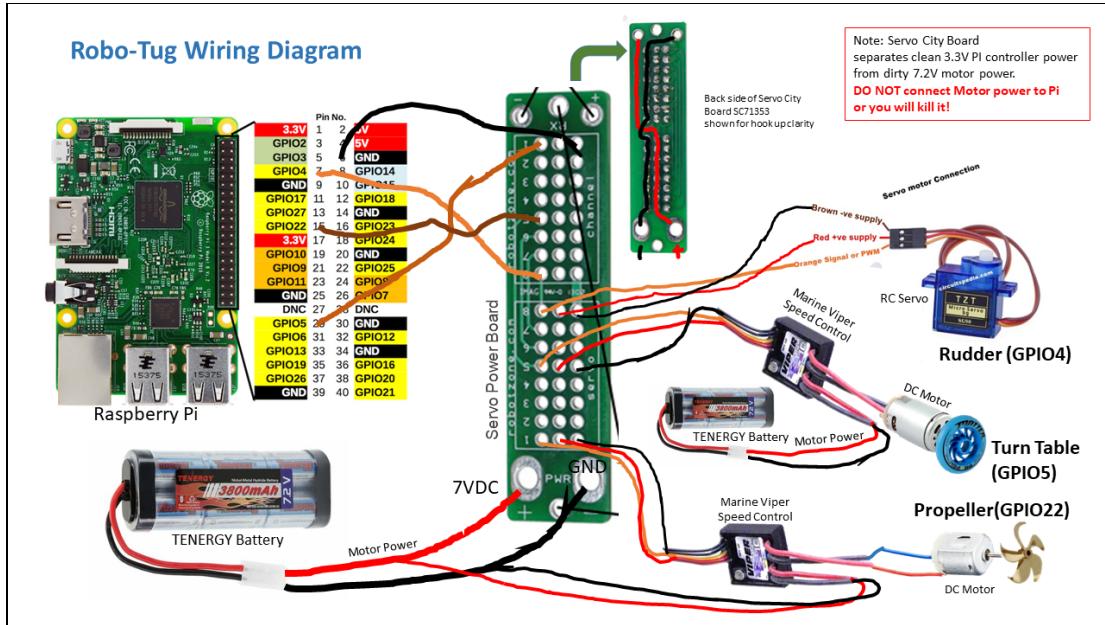


The tug is oriented so that it can clearly see the purple narwhal you are tracking:



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The Tug is controlled by a single Raspberry Pi 4 wired as shown in diagram below:

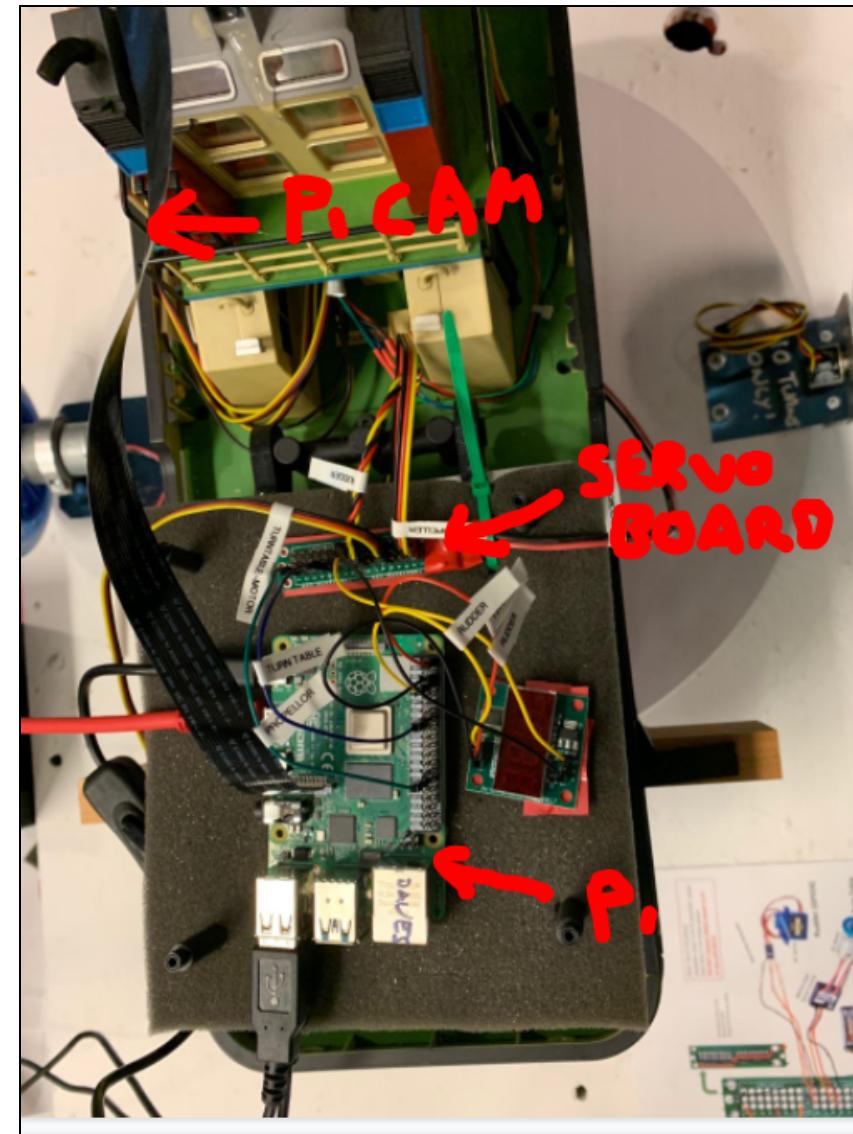


A full size copy of which is downloadable from the canvas website as well as printed out and attached to the lab cart itself.

The actual control system hardware for the Tug can be seen in the photo to the right. The Raspberry Pi can alternatively be connected to stationary (shore) power, monitor, keyboard and mouse for long time duration programming and then to a Tug based USB battery pack for simulated (revolving) operation.

Just don't forget to unplug the wires!

We will use three GPIO pins on the Pi to drive the three motors on the tug and a servocity power bus separation board to connect them:



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You will get to learn all about how to write control code for motors in the ACT lab. For now, we will give you the code as a canvas download and you can just cut and paste it into your simulation code in the correct spots to add the tug hardware to your loop. You can download two functions and a small piece of test code for this section from Canvas. Drop in your working directory. The first function **TugRaspPiSetupRevB**

This function creates a Raspberry Pi object and configures the Raspberry Pi to work with the Think Labs robot tug boat sensors and servos.

It has no input arguments and returns a set of Pi objects to be used by supporting Sensor and Actuator functions. This function must be run first, before its Robot Tugboat family functions will run.

D. Barrett Jan 2021 Revision B

```
function [robotPi,rudderServo,propServo,ttServo,blinkLED,cam] = TugRaspPiSetup_RevB()
% PiSetup creates and configures a Raspberry Pi to be a simple robot
% controller. It requires no inputs and returns an Pi and Servo Pi objects
% D. Barrett 2021 Rev B

% Create a global raspberry PI object so that it can be used in functions
% Create a *raspi* object.
robotPi = raspi('192.168.16.65'); % This IP address must match your current Pi address!

% There is a user LED on Raspberry Pi hardware that you can turn on and
% off. Execute the following command at the MATLAB prompt to turn the LED
% off and then turn it on again.|%
%
blinkLED = robotPi.AvailableLEDs{1};

% Note: use the cameraboard webcam function instead if using a USB camera
% cam = cameraboard(robotPi,'Resolution','1280x720');
% use Cam if using Tugs Picam
cam = 0;

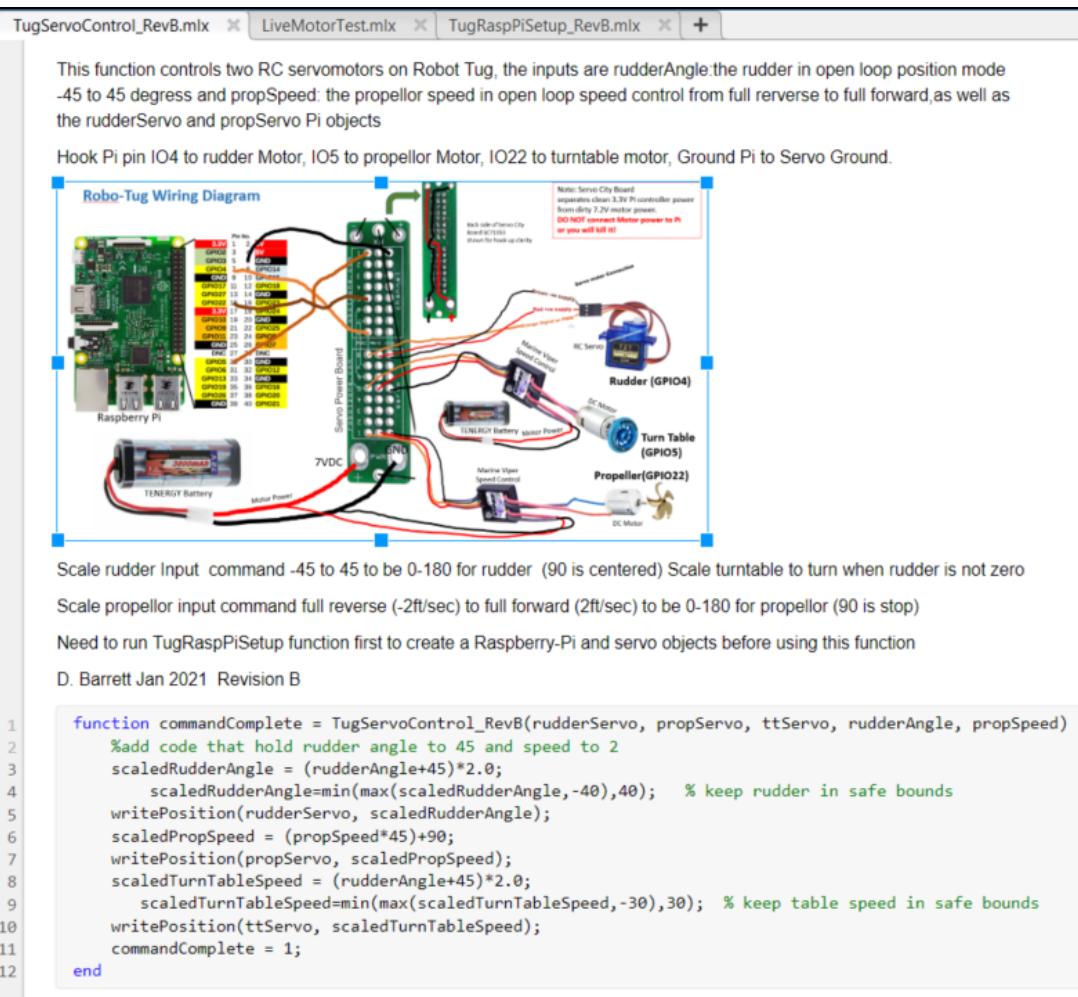
% create servo objects driving PWM GPIO pin 4, pin 5, pin 22
% MinPulseDuration: 1120 (microseconds) center 1520 (microseconds)
% MaxPulseDuration: 1920 (microseconds)
% servo(mypi, pinNumber, Name,Value) creates a servo motor object
% with additional options specified by one or more Name, Value pair arg
rudderServo = servo(robotPi, 4, 'MaxPulseDuration', 1925*10^-6, ...
    'MinPulseDuration', 1120*10^-6);
propServo = servo(robotPi, 5, 'MaxPulseDuration', 1925*10^-6, ...
    'MinPulseDuration', 1120*10^-6);
ttServo = servo(robotPi, 22, 'MaxPulseDuration', 1925*10^-6, ...
    'MinPulseDuration', 1120*10^-6);

% R-C Mode expects to start up with joystick centered
% In the RasPI MATLAB function servo position is 0-180 so 90 (1520ms) is centered
writePosition(rudderServo, 90); % always start servo-command at center
writePosition(propServo, 90); % always start servo-command at center
writePosition(ttServo, 90); % always start servo-command at center
pause(5.0); % wait for Pi to send stable pwm
end
```

It just extends your original Raspberry Pi setup code to specifically connect to the Pi on the Tug (located at 192.168.16.65 see line 8)

and then creates three servo objects: **rudderServo**, **propServo** and **ttServo** (turntable servo) and then commands them to a center position which will stop both the propellor and turntable from moving and center the rudder with respect to the hull. You will need to replace your Simulated RaspPiSetup function with this one.

The next **TugServoControl_RevB** drives the rudder, turntable and propellers



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And finally **LiveMotorTest**, to let you drive motors independently from your code

The screenshot shows the MATLAB Live Editor interface with the file `LiveMotorTest.mlx` open. The code is divided into several sections:

- LiveMotorTest.mlx runs Tugs three actuators for motor testing**: A descriptive header.
- This livescript lets operator run tugs three motors independantly and together for hardware and code testing purposes**: A note about the script's purpose.
- This code needs two functions placed in teh same directory that it runs in**: A note about required files.
- TugRaspPiSetup_RevB.mlx and TugServoControl_RevB.mlx**: File names listed.
- D. Barrett Feb 25, 2021 Rev A**: Author and revision information.
- Code blocks:**
 - Line 1: `clc % clear command window`
 - Line 2: `clear % clear MATLAB workspace`
 - Set up robot control system (code that runs once)**
 - Lines 3-6: Configuration code for the Raspberry Pi, including variable assignment and function calls.
 - Lines 7-10: Output of `raspi` properties and a warning message.
 - Run robot control loop (code that runs over and over)**
 - Lines 11-12: Loop setup with `controlFlag`.

The screenshot shows the MATLAB Live Editor interface with the file `LiveMotorTest.mlx` open, focusing on the **Run robot control loop** section. The code includes a loop that runs continuously, prompting the user for input to control the robot's speed and rudder angle. It also includes a clean shutdown routine at the end.

```
controlFlag = 1; % create a loop control
while (controlFlag == 1)
    CONTROL_LOOP_INPUT()
    commandTugSpeed = input('Enter Tug Speed range -2 to 2 ft/s: ');
    commandRudder = input(' Enter RudderAngle range -45 to 45 deg: ');
    commandComplete = TugServoControl_RevB(rudderServo, propServo, ttServo, commandRudder, commandTugSpeed);
    controlFlag = input('Run another test? 1 yes 0 stop: ');
end

robot running, cntrl-c to stop
commandComplete = 1
robot running, cntrl-c to stop
commandComplete = 1
robot running, cntrl-c to stop
commandComplete = 1

Clean shut down
finally, with most embedded robot controllers, its good practice to put
all actuators into a safe position and then release all control objects and shut down all
communication paths. This keeps systems from jamming when you want to run again.

% Stop program and clean up the connection to Raspberry Pi
% when no longer needed
writePosition(rudderServo, 90); % always end servo at 0.5
writePosition(propServo, 90); % always end servo at 0.5
writePosition(ttServo, 90); % always end servo at 0.5
clc
disp('Raspberry Pi program has ended');

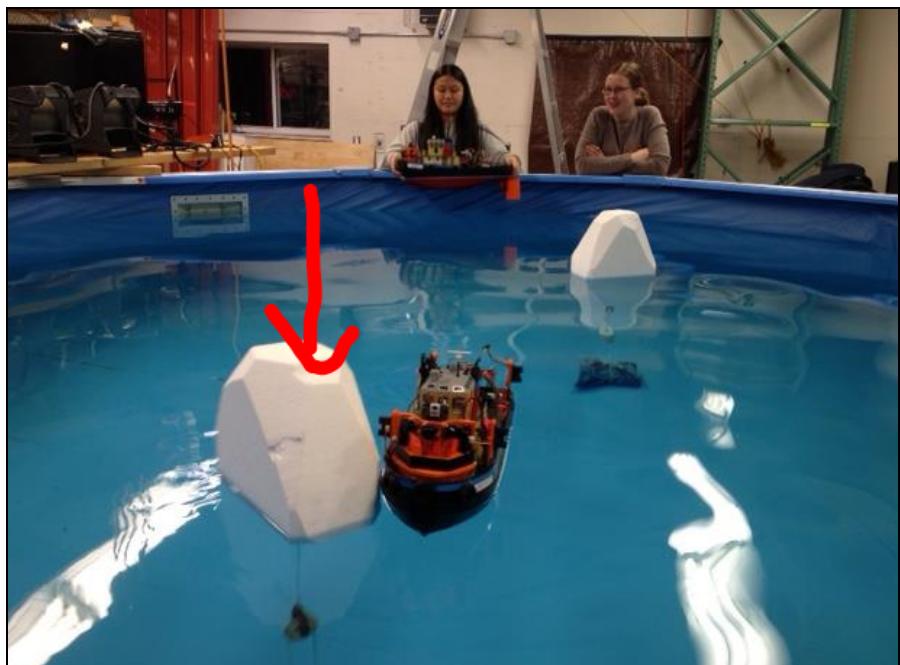
Raspberry Pi program has ended
clear robotPi
beep % play system sound to let user know program is ended
```

Run this program step by step, get an appreciation for driving tug motors and then go back and add live motor control to your Tug simulation code to make a full hardware in the loop simulation.

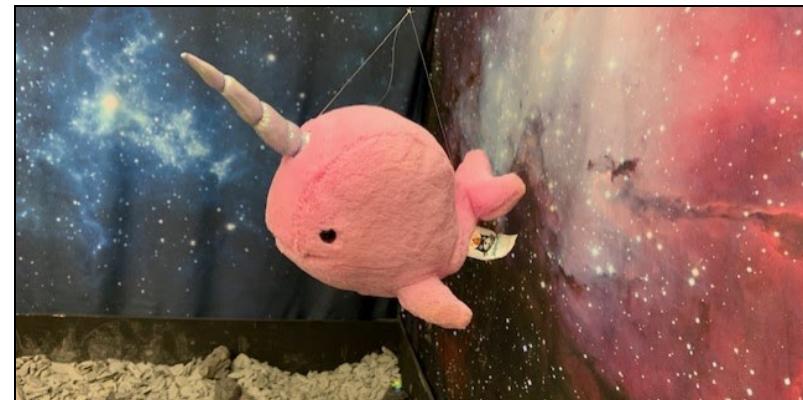
Developing your Whale Tracking Tug Demo

From the previous program, you can see how just three simple behaviors; go-straight, turn and avoid, let the Tug robustly and in the presence of dynamic obstacles, explore the pool looking for a Narwhal to photocapture. Your team's mission is to use that code as a starting template. Using the given Matlab functions for both SENSE (simulated Sharp IRs and real Pi-Cam) and ACT, controlling the Tugs actual rudder, turntable and propeller servos, your team should:

- 1) first create a new FSM behavior diagram to clearly describe your tugs behaviors. It's ok to go a bit wild here. Be daring! Maybe you should spiral out from the center of the tank? Maybe you want to precode in an optimum search path and then write a pure pursuit **GoToWaypoint** behavior to follow it. While you are searching, you will need to constantly both avoid tank walls and icebergs,



as well as be on the lookout for the purple Narwhal !



If and when you find narwhal (being waved about by Ninja on a pole), you need to track it for at least 10 seconds to have a successful video capture mission. You have carte-blanche to redesign sensors, behaviors, and arbiter to improve performance (and probably should do all given functions over too).

- 2) having created a clean FSM, show it to course Ninjas and Instructors for both scope feedback and ideas, before diving in to code it. Remember we are trying to bound this to a two week experience.
- 3) divide up the work evenly into 4 pair-programming sub-teams. Each team should have at least one function and preferably two to work on. Reworking the general code structure to improve it would count toward that goal. Please resist the urge to rewrite the underlying structure from scratch for all the reasons given previously in this course. And always remember, the goal is simple and elegant. Not complex!

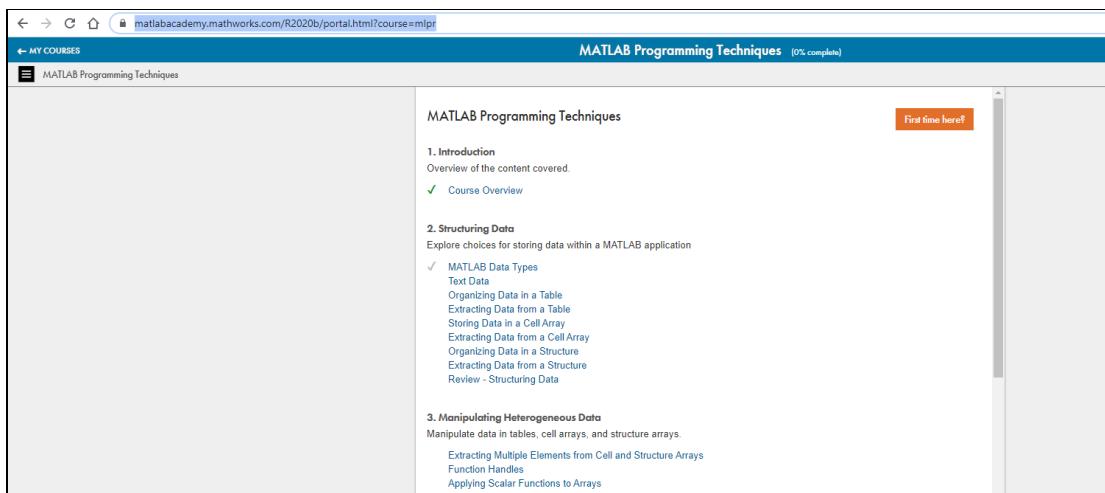
Two week demo: Please write this code, debug it, and be prepared to demo both the original control system and a full whale following Robot Tug.

As always, please see an instructor or Ninjas for help with any part of the above.

MATLAB Skill Building Tutorials

While you are working on your lab hardware, we would like you to continue developing your MATLAB skills in anticipation of needing them a little during the hardware labs and a lot for the final project. The On-Ramp was a nice introduction, but you can only learn depth in core technical skills by use and repetition. You can get this depth in MATLAB for this course by working through their more advanced **MATLAB Programming Techniques** on-line tutorial

<https://matlabacademy.mathworks.com/R2020b/portal.html?course=mlpr>



The screenshot shows the MATLAB Programming Techniques course page. At the top, there's a header bar with the URL and a progress indicator showing '0% complete'. Below the header, the course title 'MATLAB Programming Techniques' is displayed. A 'First time here?' button is located in the top right corner. The main content area is organized into three sections: 1. Introduction, 2. Structuring Data, and 3. Manipulating Heterogeneous Data. Each section contains a brief description and a list of topics or sub-sections. For example, the 'Introduction' section includes 'Course Overview' and 'First time here?'. The 'Structuring Data' section covers various MATLAB data types and structures, while the 'Manipulating Heterogeneous Data' section covers functions like 'Function Handles' and 'Applying Scalar Functions to Arrays'.

Working in 2 two week long segments (while doing the 3, 2 week long hardware labs) we will ask you to read through and do the short tutorial examples in the following order. Regardless of which lab you start with, it would be best for you to proceed through the tutorials segments in the order shown. If you already are pretty proficient in MATLAB via other Olin courses, you can just quickly scan this material for a fast refresher. There are no hard goals here, we are just trying to get each robot

lab team up to a reasonable common level of MATLAB coding skill at a reasonable pace in preparation for the big final project after the labs. If you are a novice MATLAB programmer, it is recommended that you work through the material fairly consistently, but feel free to skip over any parts you don't feel are relevant, you can always return to them later. If you are already highly skilled in MATLAB, you can just use it to brush up on the finer points of things like data structures. There is no formal deliverable for this work, beyond uploading a screen capture of your progress with each lab, but you will both learn a lot more and get a lot more out of this course if you aren't constantly asking your fellow teammates or the Ninjas how to **Plot** or how to write a simple **Switch** structure.

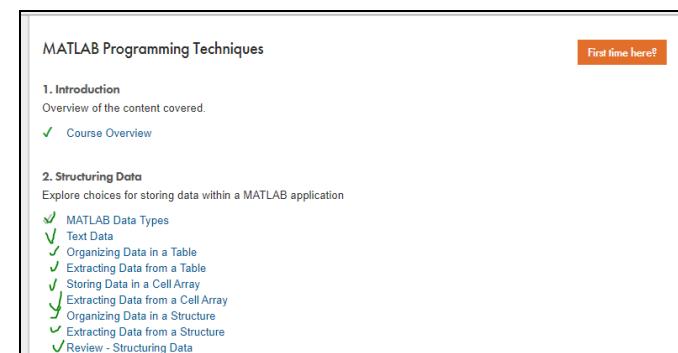
Please see a course instructor or Ninjas for MATLAB help as needed.

Lab Week 1-2:

Please work through:

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Structuring Data**
- 3. Manipulating Heterogeneous Data**

Grab a screen capture of your progress and upload as
yourname.Programming123.jpg along with your hands-on tutorial report:



This screenshot shows the same course interface as the previous one, but with a different set of checked items in the 'Structuring Data' section. The 'Introduction' section still has 'Course Overview' checked. In the 'Structuring Data' section, all items under 'MATLAB Data Types' and 'Text Data' are now checked: 'Text Data', 'Organizing Data in a Table', 'Extracting Data from a Table', 'Storing Data in a Cell Array', 'Extracting Data from a CellArray', 'Organizing Data in a Structure', 'Extracting Data from a Structure', and 'Review - Structuring Data'. The 'Manipulating Heterogeneous Data' section is still uncheckable.

Lab Week 3-4:

Please work through and then upload a yourname.Programming456.jpg screen capture of:

- 4. Optimizing Your Code**
- 5. Creating Flexible Functions**
- 6. Creating Robust Applications**

Lab Week 5-6:

Please work through and then upload a yourname.Programming789.jpg screen capture of:

- 7. Verifying Application Behavior**
- 8. Debugging Your Code**
- 9. Organizing Your Projects**

Wrap up MATLAB tutorials. Upon completing all of these technical skill building tutorials, you will have acquired a pretty solid undergraduate MATLAB coding skill set and will be well on your way to creating your own elegant robot code. You can continue your self-learning of more in-depth MATLAB skills by reading through and trying some of the more sophisticated features of MATLAB presented on line tutorials on their website