Sudharshan Suresh

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Education Robotics Institute, Carnegie Mellon University 2019 - ongoing

PhD in Robotics

Robotics Institute, Carnegie Mellon University 2017 - 2019

M.S. in Robotics

GPA: 4.09, Advisor: Prof. Michael Kaess

Thesis: Localization and Active Exploration in Indoor Underwater Environments

National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli, India

B.Tech (Hons) in Instrumentation and Control Engineering

GPA: 9.45/10

PUBLICATIONS
S. Suresh, E. Westman and M. Kaess, Through-water Stereo SLAM with Refraction Correction for AUV Localization, IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters, vol. 4, no. 2, pp. 692-699, Presented at ICRA 2019 and published in RA-L, April 2019. [PDF, Poster, Video]

J. Hsiung, A. Tallaksen, L. Papincak, <u>S. Suresh</u>, H. Jones, W. Whittaker and M. Kaess, **Localized Imaging and Mapping for Underwater Fuel Storage Basins**, Proceedings of the Symposium on Waste Management, Phoenix, Arizona, Mar 2018. [PDF, Slides, Video]

R. K. Sarvadevabhatla, <u>S. Suresh</u> and R. Venkatesh Babu, **Object Category Understanding via Eye Fixations on Freehand Sketches**, IEEE Transactions on Image Processing, vol. 26, no. 5, pp. 2508-2518, May 2017. [PDF, Project]

E. Fang, <u>S. Suresh</u> and W. Whittaker, **Camera-Only Kinematics for Small Lunar Rovers**, Annual Meeting of the Lunar Exploration Analysis Group, Vol. 1960, Nov 2016. [PDF, Poster]

S. Suresh, E. Fang and W. Whittaker, Optical Kinematic State Estimation of Planetary Rovers using Downward-Facing Monocular Fisheye Camera, RISS Working Paper Journal, Nov 2016. [PDF, Video, Poster]

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE Robotics Institute, Carnegie Mellon University

Advisor: Prof. Michael Kaess

Aug 2017 - Aug 2019 M.S. Student

2013 - 2017

Master's thesis research in the Robot Perception Lab, focused on localization and exploration for autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs). This comprised of (i) a novel through-water method for visual localization using landmarks above the water surface, (ii) an active SLAM framework for exploration and sonar mapping.

Robotics Institute, Carnegie Mellon University

June - Sep 2016

Advisor: Prof. William L. "Red" Whittaker

RI Summer Scholar

Developed a novel visual state-estimation algorithm for planetary rovers via self-perception. Method uses a single downward-facing fisheye camera to robustly estimate 10-DoF kinematic state on rugged terrain.

Video Analytics Lab, Indian Institute of Science

May - Aug 2015

Advisors: Prof. R. Venkatesh Babu, R. K. Sarvadevabhatla

Research Intern

Research in object category understanding for freehand sketches. Created *SketchFix-160*, as open-source dataset of free-viewing user tests, and developed a computational model for sketch category prediction.

Dept. of Instrumentation and Control, NIT Trichy

Jan - May 2017

Advisor: Prof. M. Umapathy

Bachelor's Thesis

Worked on the design and implementation of sliding mode control for electromechanical domains. Analyzed hyperplane design techniques for a cantilever beam system with input disturbance.

INDEPENDENT
PROJECTS

DeepGeo: Photo Localization with Deep Neural Network (10-701) [arXiv] 2018A deep network that beats humans at GeoGuessr—trained on our 50States10K dataset.

Task and Motion Planning for Robotic Food Preparation (16-782) [Report] 2018 Hierarchical task and motion planning for a 6-DOF robot arm—to prepare yogurt parfaits!

2018

Thin Structure Reconstruction via 3D Lines and Points (16-822) [Poster]

We combine edge data and sparse features in the SfM pipeline to recover thin objects in a scene.

Factor Graph Optimization for Dynamic Parameter Estimation (16-711) [Report] 2019

We implement a method for estimation of MAV poses and dynamic parameters during flight.

AWARDS AND

RECAL Alumni Award, 2017 (gold-medalist in undergraduate major)

Honors Sri. Avinash Memorial Award, 2017 (best outgoing male student in undergraduate major)

> OPJEMS Scholar, 2017 (100 undergraduates across India) S. N. Bose and Robotics Institute Summer Scholar, 2016

Cargill Global Scholar, 2015 - 2017 (10 undergraduate sophomores across India)

ACTIVITIES

Admissions committee, CMU RI Summer Scholars program (2018, 2019)

Mentor, Jiteshraj Scholarship, NIT Trichy (2018)

Teaching Assistant, 16-833: Robot Localization and Mapping, CMU (2019)

TECHNICAL SKILLS **Programming**: C/C++, Python, MATLAB, IATEX Tools and Libraries: ROS, OpenCV, TensorFlow

Relevant Coursework

Graduate: Convex Optimization (10-725)*, Kinematics, Dynamics and Control (16-711), Geometrybased Methods in Vision (16-822), Planning and Decision-making in Robotics (16-782), Robot Localization and Mapping (16-833), Introduction to Machine Learning (10-701), Computer Vision (16-720B), Mathematical Fundamentals for Robotics (16-811)

Undergraduate: Data Structures and Algorithms, Computer Networks, Neural Networks and Fuzzy Logic, Image Processing, Basics of Programming, Control Systems, Logic and Distributed Control, Robotics, Signals and Systems, Circuit Theory, Digital Electronics, Embedded Systems, Linear Integrated Circuits, Sensors and Transducers, Material Science, Numerical Methods