Sudharshan Suresh

www.cs.cmu.edu/~sudhars1 / suddhu@cmu.edu / LinkedIn / Scholar **PERSONAL**

Robotics Institute, Carnegie Mellon University 2019 - present **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. in Robotics

Advisor: Prof. Michael Kaess

2017 - 2019 **Robotics Institute, Carnegie Mellon University**

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

JOURNAL.

[1] S. Suresh, E. Westman, and M. Kaess, "Through-water stereo SLAM with refraction correction for AUV **PUBLICATIONS** localization," IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L), vol. 4, no. 2, pp. 2377-3766, presented at ICRA 2019, Apr. 2019. (pdf / poster / video)

> [2] R. K. Sarvadevabhatla, S. Suresh, 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)

2013 - 2017

PEER-REVIEWED **PUBLICATIONS**

[3] M. Hsiao, J.G. Mangelson, S. Suresh, C. Debrunner, and M. Kaess, "ARAS: ambiguity-aware robust active SLAM based on multi-hypothesis state and map estimations," In Proc. IEEE/RSJ Intl. Conf. on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS), Oct. 2020. To appear.

[4] S. Suresh, P. Sodhi, J. G. Mangelson, D. Wettergreen, and M. Kaess, "Active SLAM using 3D submap saliency for underwater volumetric exploration," In Proc. IEEE Intl. Conf. on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), Paris, France, pp. 3132-3138, May 2020. (pdf / video / presentation)

WORKSHOPS/OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- [5] S. Suresh, J. G. Mangelson, and M. Kaess, "Incremental shape and pose estimation from planar pushing using contact implicit surfaces," In ICRA 2020 workshop - ViTac 2020: Closing the Perception-Action Loop with Vision and Tactile Sensing, May 2020. (pdf / presentation)
- [6] J. Hsiung, A. Tallaksen, L. Papincak, S. Suresh, H. Jones, W. Whittaker, and M. Kaess, "Localized imaging and mapping for underwater fuel storage basins," In Proceedings of the Symposium on Waste Management, Phoenix, Arizona, Mar. 2018. (pdf / presentation)
- [7] E. Fang, S. Suresh and W. Whittaker, "Camera-only kinematics for small lunar rovers," In Annual Meeting of the Lunar Exploration Analysis Group, Columbia, Maryland, Vol. 1960, Nov 2016. (poster)
- [8] S. Suresh, E. Fang and W. Whittaker, "Optical kinematic state estimation of planetary rovers using downwardfacing monocular fisheye camera," RISS Working Papers Journal, Nov 2016. (pdf / video / poster)

EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Carnegie Mellon University

2017 - present

Ph.D. research in the Robot Perception Lab, on visual-tactile perception for robot manipulation. Currently working on estimating object shape and pose via planar pushing. Previously developed algorithms for active exploration and stereo visual SLAM in underwater environments.

Undergraduate Research Scholar, Carnegie Mellon University

Summer 2016

RI summer scholar working with Red Whittaker on visual state-estimation via self-perception for planetary rovers.

Undergraduate Research Scholar, Indian Institute of Science

Summer 2015

Work with R. Venkatesh Babu and R. K. Sarvadevabhatla on freehand sketch understanding through eye-gaze fixations.

TEACHING Teaching Assistant, 16-833: Robot Localization and Mapping

Fall 2019, Spring 2020

Course project mentorship, office hours, grading, presented lectures on occupancy mapping [1] and sparse visual SLAM

techniques [2, 3].

SERVICE Reviewer: International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems, IROS (2020)

Admissions committee: CMU RI Summer Scholars program (2018-2020)

Mentorship: CMU AI undergraduate mentorship program (2019), NIT Trichy Jiteshraj Scholarship (2018)

AWARDS AND HONORS

RECAL Alumni Award and Sri. Avinash Memorial Award, 2017 (gold-medalist 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)

SELECT COURSEWORK **Graduate**: Convex optimization (10-725), kinematics, dynamics and control (16-711), geometry-based 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 (16-720), 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, robotics, signals and systems, circuit theory, embedded systems, linear integrated circuits, sensors and transducers, material science, numerical methods

INDEPENDENT PROJECTS

DeepGeo: Photo localization with deep neural network (10-701) (arXiv / github)

A deep network that beats humans at GeoGuessr—trained on our 50States10K dataset.

Task and motion planning for robotic food preparation (16-782) (report)

Hierarchical task and motion planning for a 6-DOF robot arm—to prepare yogurt parfaits!

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)

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