

The "roboticist's" spectrum

mark where you feel at home!



reads papers...

what papers?

on screen n°1 out of 3.

doesn't read, clones GitHub repo

as a pretext to not having to code

printed out at the desk.

on a bench in the park.

likes papers...

with executable code that works out of the box.

not so much.

only on arXiv; published = outdated

with an "algorithm" box, and proofs in appendix one never has to look at

with convergence rates, no matter how loose.

written in infinite-dimensional spaces and applicable to literally everything, relying heavily on some French dude's theory from the 60ies.

builds...

stuff that works (possibly using duct tape & glue guns)

incredibly complicated solutions to seemingly simple problems

SOTA systems only!

tools for other people to build stuff that works

theories for other people to build tools.

a growing body of knowledge to understand the universe.

likes robots...

turned on and moving!

only if they come with an engineer

only if they come with a calibrated camera

turned off or simulated.

mentioned in future work.

what robots?

likes coding...

to be someone else's problem

in C++ using heavy terminal multiplexing and docker.

for data loaders

in python — only caring about big-O complexity.

in Matlab, jupyter notebooks, or julia

for custom commands in LaTeX.

likes sunlight...

to be blocked so it doesn't mess with the infrared mocap.

for nice-looking robot demo videos

always to be exactly the same

less than the 3 screens — put down the shades please!

to lighten up the desk — put those shades up, please!

to warm up one's face while in deep thought on a bench in the park.

loathes...

unstable university WiFi messing up communication with robots.

reviewers asking why if it really works

not being able to reproduce benchmarks

reviewers asking for experiments on real robots.

pragmatic solutions that magically work.

bold vector notation, finite-dimensional things

thinks indexing...

is someone else's problem. (see below)

is for people who don't know about automatic broadcasting

needs at least 6 letters:
i, j, k, u, v, t, ...
dataset batch kernel image time

must start at zero

must start at one

is sometimes an ugly necessity

if code is broken...

turns to roboticist / CV researcher

starts from scratch thinking this time the code will be finally good.

clones a different GitHub repo

frustrates out for 2 days, scared the theory is broken, until finding an index error.

thinks it must be cosmic interference

buys a new laptop