Patrick Li-Yu Lo

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EDUCATION

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Sep '22 - Aug '24

M.Phil. in Robotics & Control, GPA: 3.77/4.3, Presidential Fellowship Scheme

Department of Aeronautical and Aviation Engineering

Thesis: On Improving the Adaptivity of Controllers and Estimators for Mobile Robots in Challenging Operational Conditions

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Sep '17 - Jun '21

B.Eng. (1st Honour), GPA: 3.75/4.3

Department of Aeronautical and Aviation Engineering Thesis: Vision-based Navigation of Quadrotor UAV

University of Queensland, Australia

Feb '20 - Jul '20

Academic Exchange

Department of Aerospace Engineering

EMPLOYMENT

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Jul '21 - Jul '22

Research Assistant

Hong Kong Center for Construction Robotics

Projects: CV-based Construction Logistics Monitoring System; Controller Design for Prefabrication Components Installation.

Duties: Conducted literature review on adversarial training; performed data augmentation; conducted image pre-processing; co-designed auxiliary hardware setup for better image captures; coded in Arduino & PyTorch.

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

- Lo, L. Y., Y. Hu, B. Li, C.-Y. Wen, and Y. Yang, "An Adaptive Model Predictive Control for Unmanned Underwater Vehicles Subject to External Disturbances and Measurement Noise," Accepted to 14th IEEE Asian Control Conference (ASCC), 2024. *Links*: pdf, code.
- Lo, L. Y., B. Li, C.-Y. Wen, and C.-W. Chang, "Experimental Non-Robocentric Dynamic Landing of Quadrotor UAVs with On-Ground Sensor Suite," Submitted (*Major Revision*) to IEEE Transactions on Instrumentation and Measurement (TIM), 2024. *Links*: pdf, code.
- Lo, L. Y., B. Li, C.-Y. Wen, and C.-W. Chang, "Landing a Quadrotor on a Ground Vehicle without Exteroceptive Airborne Sensors: A Non-Robocentric Framework and Implementation," in 2023 IEEE 26th International Conference on Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITSC). IEEE, 2023, pp. 6080–6087. Links: pdf.
- Lo, L. Y., C. H. Yiu, Y. Tang, A.-S. Yang, B. Li, and C.-Y. Wen, "Dynamic Object Tracking on Autonomous UAV System for Surveillance Applications," Sensors, vol. 21, no. 23, p. 7888, 2021. Editor's Choice Article. *Links*: pdf, code.

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIP

- First Runner-up of UAV Challenge, 2023 & 2024 IEEE International Conference on Unmanned Aircraft Systems (ICUAS). *Links*: web 2023, web 2024.
- PolyU Presidential Postgraduate Fellowship Scheme ('22 '24).
- Dean's list of PolyU Faculty of Engineering: '17/18, '18/19 & '20/21.
- PolyU Undergraduate APEC Entry Scholarship ('17 '21).

SELECTED PROJECT

Relative State Estimation for Non-Inertial Control Systems

Sep '22 - Present

We study the relative state estimation problem for the feedback loop of non-inertial control systems (e.g., ground-centralized UAV-UGV heterogeneous teams) based on visual measurements, control input signals, and observed disturbance.

- Main modules: Investigated the unknown input problem in Kalman filters; designed adaptive extended state observer to extract the real input; fused the lump disturbance and control input into the prediction model of IEKF; performed stability analysis in the sense of Lyapunov for the observer.
- Tools: C++/Python in ROS, Gazebo, PX4, Docker.

Observer-based MPC for Unmanned Underwater Vehicle

Aug '23 - Mar '24

We designed a novel error-state extended state observer subject to physical sensor models for adaptive nonlinear UUV MPC.

- Main modules: Investigated the IMU model and ESKF; applied Fossen's UUV equation to design the prediction model; integrated the lump disturbance into the prediction model; performed stability analysis in the sense of Lyapunov for both observer and controller.
- Tools: C++/Python in ROS, Gazebo, Acados/Casadi, BlueROV2 SITL, Docker.
- Achievements: Paper accepted at 2024 IEEE Asian Control Conference.

Towards Non-Robocentric Dynamic Landing for Quadrotor UAVs We proposed a novel sensing configuration for the UAV dynamic landing problem where no airborne exteroceptive sensors were used.

- Main modules: Carried out stereo camera image processing; proposed IEKF-based state estimator on SE(3); designed kinematic and dynamic constrained trajectory with differential flatness & minimized jerk; coded PID outer-loop flight controller; conducted heterogeneous UAV-UGV hardware system design and physical experiments in VICON.
- Tools: C++/Python in ROS, Gazebo, OSQP, PX4, Docker.
- Achievements: Paper published in 2023 IEEE International Conference on Intelligent Transportation System; extended version submitted to IEEE Transactions on Instrumentation and Measurement; knowledge transferred (partial) to HKSAR Environmental Protection Department.

Vision-based Navigation of Quadrotor UAV

Aug '20 - May '2.

We worked on a fully autonomous UAV with SLAM, dynamic object tracking, path planning, trajectory generation, and controller modules. The team specifically focused on SLAM and dynamic object tracking.

- Main modules: Conducted CNN training for object detection; carried out stereo camera image processing; proposed EKF-based state estimator for object tracking; proposed visual-dynamic sensor fusion with TCN/LSTM models to solve the unknown input problem.
- Tools: C++/Python in ROS, Gazebo, Darknet, OpenCV DNN, PyTorch, GTSAM, PX4.
- Achievements: 2 papers were published in *Sensors* and *Aerospace* as an undergraduate RA; Github repo received ~100 stars.

CORE SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE

- State Estimation: EKF, Graph-SLAM, Extended State Observer, Sensor-Fusion, Stereo Camera, LiDAR, IMU, Lie Theory.
- Control & Optimization: UAV & UUV Dynamic Analysis, Optimal Control, Nonlinear Control Theory, Trajectory Generation, Convex Optimization, Machine Learning.
- Software/Hardware: ROS in C++/Python, Gazebo, PyTorch, GTSAM, Acados, Docker, PX4 (& SITL), BlueROV2 (& SITL).
- Links: Project Pages, Learning Notes.

OTHERS

- Languages: English (IELTS 7.5), Mandarin (Native), Cantonese (Proficient), Taiwanese (Proficient).
- Services: Reviewer of IEEE Transactions on Mechatronics; IEEE Sensor Journal; 2023 IEEE International Conference on Intelligent Transportation System.
- Volunteering: Student ambassador of PolyU ('19-'21); Student/Teaching Assistant at HeartFire Education Service, China (Dec '19), African Evangelistic Enterprise, Rwanda (Jun '19), Royal University of Phnom Penh, Cambodia (May Jun '18).