Wenkai Ren

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EDUCATION

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

Aug.2018 - Dec.2019

M.S. in Robotics Engineering (Laboratory Computational Sensing and Robotics)

Columbia University, Graduate school of Engineering and Applied Science, New York, NY

Aug.2016 - Dec.2017

M.S. in Mechanical Engineering

Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ

Aug.2013 - May.2016

B.S. in Mechanical Engineering

Minor in Electrical Engineering and Mathematics

GPA: 3.75/4.0 (cum laude)

EXPERIENCE

3D Food Printing, Columbia University, NY

May.2016 - Oct.2017

Research Assistant, Supervisor: Hod Lipson

- Programmed for food print including switching materials, controlling layer height and visualizing the process with python
- Implemented the food printer with laser sensor (1%) for high-accuracy feedback control

Aug.2015 - May.2016

Association Unmanned Vehicle System International Competition(Undergraduate Capstone Design, Team)

- Designed a fully autonomous underwater robot can perform color identification, dropping markers, and gripping system
- My work includes motor brackets and water sealing end caps design, front camera vision detection based on color marker and gripping control system.

PROJECT

3D Perception based on RGB-D Sensor, ROS

June.2018

- Implement PR2 robot in the simulator with RGB-D sensor data to pick up a listed objects in a given table and place the corresponding dropbox
- Implement RANSAC plane segmentation and Euclidean Clustering to separate the objects in perception pipeline

Search and Sample Return Project (modified after NASA sample return challenge), ROS

May.2018

- Implement the "rover" car in unit engine simulator to autonomously map a simulated environment and search for samples of interest
- Use "hug wall" method in decision pipeline to map the whole environment and collecting the samples without stuck.

Udacity Self-driving nano-degree Program (Python, C++)

Jun.2017 - Feb.2018

• System Integration Project (Team Leader)

Use ROS nodes to implement core autonomous vehicle system based on the Udacity self-driving car "Carla" architecture with three module includes perception, control, and path planning. perception: based on camera image to perceive traffic light

planning: based on the next waypoint and the decision of the traffic light waypoint to generate future waypoint control: based on the planning data of the trajectory, by sending control commends to steering, throttle and brake values.

- Adopt PID control and model predictive control method for self-driving car in the simulator
- Implemented extended and unscented Kalman Filter to track surrounding pedestrians and cars in the simulator with C++
- Implemented Particle filter with Map Localization in vehicle simulated environment with C++
- Trained an agent imitating human's driving behavior in the simulator based on NIVIDA model with Keras
- Detected and tracked vehicles using sliding window methods with SVM classifier
- Trained a convolutional neural network to classify traffic sign with 96% test accuracy with Tensorflow

Drone follower, Tensorflow, keras

March.2018

• Built and trained an FCN to find a specific person in images from a simulated quad-copter

Reinforcement Learning in Quadrator Navigation, Group Course Project

Oct.2017 - Dec.2017

• Built simulation environment with Air Sim using Unreal engine

• Implemented the deep Q-learning, double Q-learning method for test

Robot Arm Motion Planning, Course Project, ROS

Nov.2017

• Based on Kuka 7 joint arm, simulate cartesian controller to control the robot arm's work space

• Implement robot ending-factor to reach desired pose with collision free by rapid-exploring random tree(RRT)

Raspberry Pi Programming for GoPiGo Robot, Course Project

Dec.2016

• Implemented "Bug2" algorithm on Go robot along with the ultrasound sensor data.

• Use Picamera API to constantly taking photos and enable robot to recognize markers on photos instantly on raspberry Pi

LANGUAGES & SKILLS

- Python, C++/C, Java, R
- ROS, MATLAB, OpenCv, Tensorflow, Keras, Linux, git, Solidworks