H2020 RIA



CENTAURO

Robust Mobility and Dexterous Manipulation in Disaster Response by Fullbody Telepresence in a Centaur-like Robot

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Motivation

- Capabilities of disaster-response robots insufficient for providing effective support to rescue workers
 - Mobility: difficulties with uneven terrain, stairs, and debris



Fukushima disaster 2011, Image: Digital Globe CC 3.0.

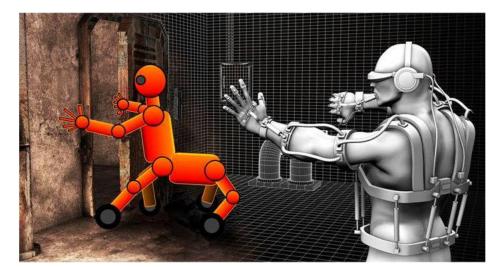
- Manipulation: only a single actuator with simple end-effectors
- User interface: requires extensive training, not intuitive, situation awareness problematic
- Task complexity tasks and execution speed limited



Overall Objective

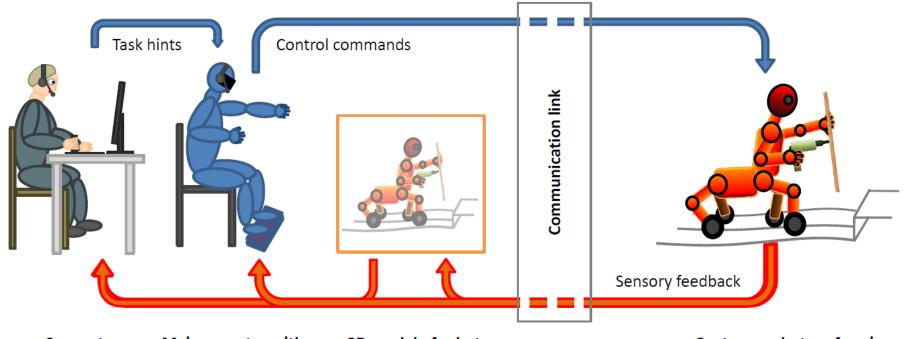
 Development of a Human-robot system where a human operator is telepresent with its whole body in a Centaur-

like robot, which is capable of robust locomotion and dexterous manipulation in the rough terrain and austere conditions characteristic of disasters.





CENTAURO Approach



Support operator

Main operator with HMD and exoskeleton

3D model of robot and environment

Centauro robot performing disaster-response tasks



Centauro Robot





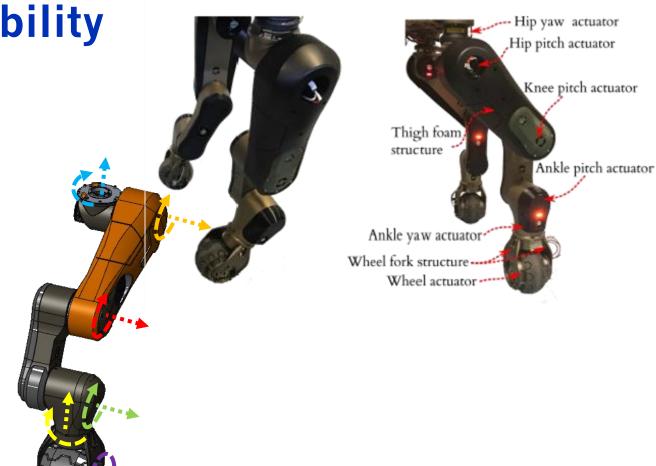
- Serial elastic actuators
- 42 main DoFs
- Schunk hand
- 3D laser
- RGB-D camera
- Color cameras
- Two GPU PCs

[Tsagarakis et al., IIT 2017]



Centauro Mobility

- Leg Features
 - 6D0F
 - Hip yaw/roll
 - Knee pitch
 - Ankle pitch
 - Ankle yaw & wheel
 - Mixed compliant/stiffActuation
 - Wide joint range of motion

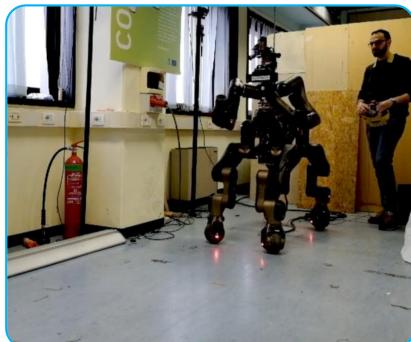


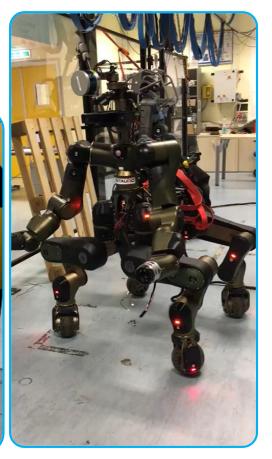


Centauro Mobility

Hybrid Legged-wheeled locomotion









Centauro Interaction Control

Whole body Impedance Controller

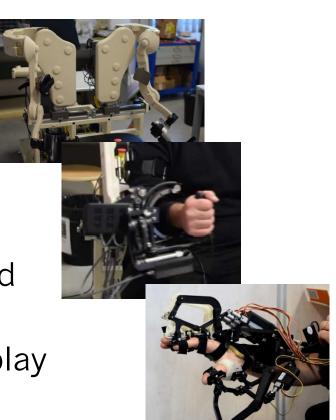




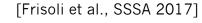


Main Operator Telepresence Interface

- Tendon-driven dual-arm exoskeleton
- Active wrist with differential tendon transmission
- Underactuated hand exoskeleton
- Head-mounted display
- Foot pedals







Main Operator Control



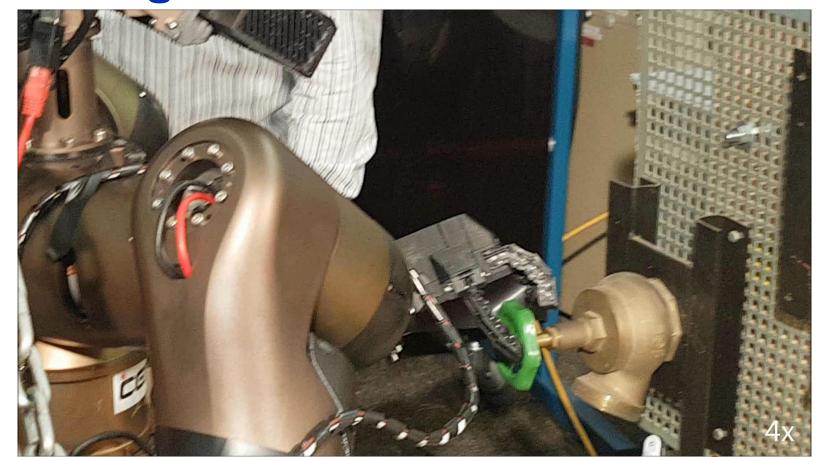
Manipulation Tasks

- Surface
- Valve (lever)
- Valve (gate)
- Snap hook
- Fire hose
- 230V connector
- Cutting tool
- Driller
- Screw driver
- Grasping





Turning a Valve

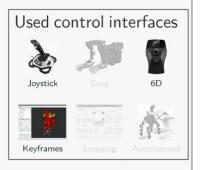


Connecting a Plug



Manipulation Tasks

- Surface
- Valve (lever)
- Valve (gate)
- Snap hook
- Fire hose
- 230V connector
- Cutting tool
- Driller
- Screw driver
- Grasping



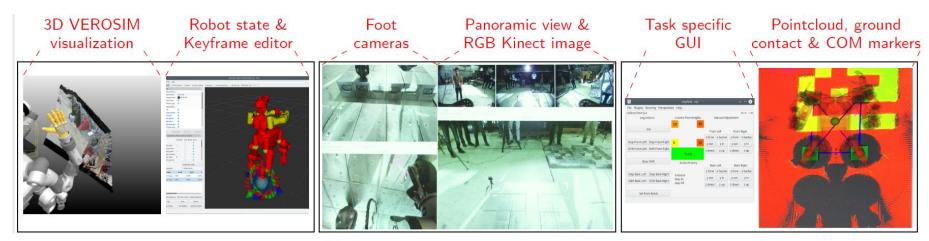


Cutting a Wire





Support Operator Interfaces







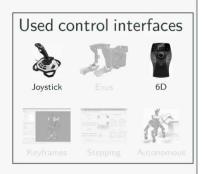


Opening and Going Through a Door



Locomotion Tasks

- Ramp
- Small door
- Regular door
- Gap
- Step field
- Stairs





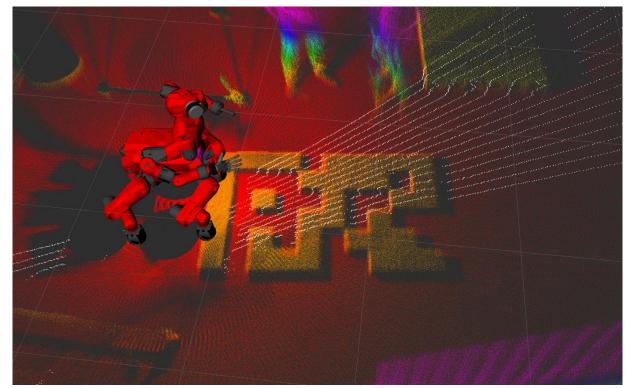
Climbing over a Gap





3D Mapping and Localization





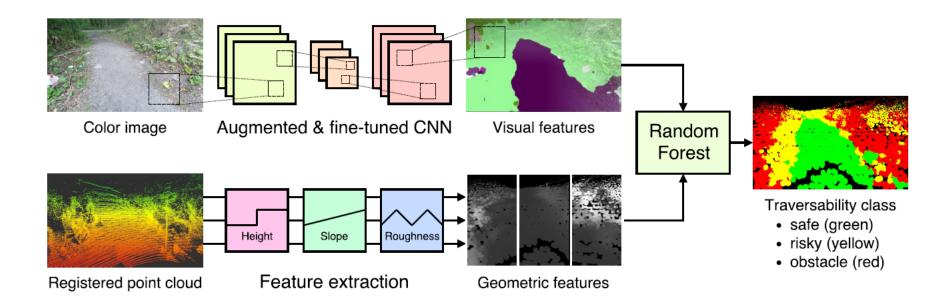


Walking over a Step Field





Terrain Classification

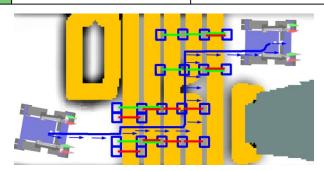


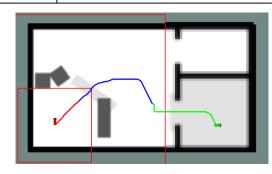
[Schilling et al., IROS 2017]



Hybrid Driving-Stepping Locomotion Planning

Level	Map Resolution			Map Features			Robot Representation			Action Semantics		
1			• 2.5 cm • 64 orient.		\bigwedge	Height					\bigwedge	• Individual Foot Actions
2			• 5.0 cm • 32 orient.			HeightHeight Difference			+ + +			• Foot Pair Actions
3		V	• 10 cm • 16 orient.			HeightHeight DifferenceTerrain Class		\bigvee				Whole Robot Actions





[Klamt and Behnke, IROS 2017, ICRA 2018]



Transfer of Manipulation Skills













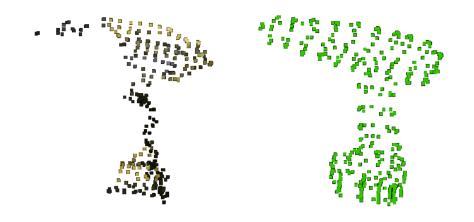
Object Perception

Semantic segmentation





Shape-aware non-rigid registration



[Rodriguez et al. ICRA 2018]



Grasping an Unknown Power Drill





Fastening a Screw





CENTAURO Team





Conclusions

- Centauro robot versatile and capable platform for mobile manipulation
- Full-body telepresence suite and autonomous assistance functions
- Demonstrated a large variety of manipulation and locomotion tasks
- Valuable insights for further development
- Plan to demonstrate integrated disaster-response missions





Thank you very much for your attention!

