MBZIRC Challenge 2 Winner NimbRo

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Autonomous Intelligent Systems Robots

- Cognitive robots for challenging domains
- Semantic perception, planning autonomous behaviors



Soccer

Domestic service

Aerial inspection

Space exploration

Bin picking



Advanced Perception, Planning, and Learning Methods

- Perception
 - RGB-D and laser-based SLAM
 - Semantic mapping
 - Object detection/pose estimation/tracking
- Planning
 - Grasp and arm motion planning
 - Navigation planning
- Learning
 - Deep Learning
 - Transfer of manipulation skills



Experience with Challenges and Competitions

- RoboCup
 - Humanoid Soccer
 - @Home domestic service
- DARPA Robotics Challenge
- European Robotics Challenges
- DLR SpaceBot Cup
- Amazon Picking Challenge













Challenge 2 Second Trial



Omnidirectional Drive

- Directly driven hub wheels
- Yaw actuators
- Three target velocities (x, y, θ)
- Direction and speed of each wheel computed accordingly





Panel Detection

- Analyze individual scan lines in Velodyne Puck measurements
- Filter measurements
- Detect object of panel width
- Integrate intensity







Robot Manipulator

- 6DoF arm (UR5)
- Stereo cameras (Pointgray)
- ToF camera (PMD picoflexx)
- Two-finger gripper





Wrench Selection

- Deep learning object detection
- Training set: 100 stereo pairs
- Two classes: Ring and mouth
- Expected wrench distance projected into image
- Data association
- Select third largest wrench







Valve Registration

- Laser based panel ICP gives ~1 cm precision
- Picoflexx Camboard sees wrench and valve stem
- Euclidean clustering
- Rotating calipers for estimating valve stem angle and size







Wrench Insertion



Operator Situation Awareness





High-level Mission Control (I)

Sequential finite state machine:

- 1) Navigate along a set of GPS waypoints
- 2) As soon as there is a panel detection, navigate to the panel position
- 3) When close enough, circle the panel to the front side
- 4) Approach precisely using ICP registration



High-level Mission Control (II)

- 1) Extend arm, select the correct wrench, grasp it
- 2) Move to ICP-corrected valve position
- 3) Detect precise valve position and orientation
- 4) Insert wrench
- 5) Turn!
- 6) Repeat until stopped by operator.





Challenge 2 Second Trial Robot Perspective



Team NimbRo



