computer science and robotics

Computer Science and Robotics: Exploring the Synergy of Two Revolutionary Fields

computer science and robotics together represent one of the most exciting frontiers in technology today. These two disciplines, when combined, have the potential to revolutionize industries, enhance daily life, and solve complex problems that were once thought impossible. As we dive deeper into how computer science fuels advancements in robotics, it becomes clear that their relationship is symbiotic — each pushing the other toward new horizons.

The Interplay Between Computer Science and Robotics

At its core, robotics is the intersection of mechanical engineering, electronics, and computer science. While mechanical components give robots their structure and movement, it's computer science that breathes "intelligence" into these machines. Programming, algorithms, and artificial intelligence (AI) enable robots to perform tasks autonomously, adapt to new environments, and interact safely with humans.

Computer science provides the tools to design control systems, develop machine learning models, and process sensor data. Robotics relies heavily on software engineering principles to ensure that a robot's hardware performs optimally and predictably. Without advances in computer science, modern robotics would be limited to rigid, pre-programmed machines incapable of learning or decision-making.

Key Computer Science Concepts Driving Robotics

Understanding the synergy between these fields requires exploring some fundamental computer science concepts that are integral to robotics development:

- **Algorithms**: Algorithms dictate how robots process information, navigate environments, and solve problems. Pathfinding algorithms like A* and Dijkstra's algorithm allow robots to find efficient routes.
- **Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning**: AI enables robots to interpret complex data such as images or speech and make decisions based on patterns learned from experience. Reinforcement learning helps robots improve their performance over time without explicit programming for every scenario.
- **Computer Vision**: Robots use computer vision to "see" and understand their surroundings. This involves image processing, object recognition, and depth perception.

- **Sensor Fusion and Data Processing**: Combining data from multiple sensors (lidar, cameras, gyroscopes) requires sophisticated data processing algorithms to create an accurate understanding of the environment.
- **Control Systems and Robotics Software**: Control theory and software architectures manage how robots move and respond to inputs, ensuring smooth and coordinated actions.

Applications of Robotics Fueled by Computer Science

The integration of computer science and robotics has unlocked applications across diverse sectors, reshaping how tasks are automated and optimized.

Industrial Automation and Smart Manufacturing

Factories have long used robots for repetitive tasks, but today's robots are smarter thanks to computer science innovations. Advanced robotics systems use AI to detect faults, optimize assembly lines, and adapt to changes in product design without human intervention. This flexibility reduces downtime and boosts productivity.

Healthcare Robotics

Robotic surgery systems, powered by precise algorithms and real-time data processing, assist surgeons in performing minimally invasive procedures. Rehabilitation robots help patients regain mobility, while AI-enabled diagnostic bots analyze medical images to detect diseases early. These advancements wouldn't be possible without the computational backbone provided by computer science.

Autonomous Vehicles and Drones

Self-driving cars and drones rely heavily on robotics software and AI models developed through computer science. They must process enormous amounts of sensor data, interpret complex environments, and make split-second decisions to navigate safely. This requires sophisticated algorithms in computer vision, sensor fusion, and real-time control.

Challenges at the Intersection of Computer

Science and Robotics

Despite remarkable progress, several challenges remain that researchers and engineers continue to tackle.

Real-Time Processing and Latency

Robots operating in dynamic environments need to process sensor data and respond instantly. Achieving low latency in computation while handling complex algorithms is a key hurdle. Advances in edge computing and optimized software architectures help mitigate these issues.

Robustness and Safety

Ensuring robots behave safely around humans requires rigorous testing and fail-safe mechanisms. Computer science contributes through formal verification methods, secure coding practices, and anomaly detection algorithms that prevent unexpected behaviors.

Energy Efficiency and Hardware Constraints

Many robots, especially mobile ones, operate under strict energy limitations. Balancing computational power with battery life demands creative software solutions and efficient algorithms that reduce processing loads without sacrificing performance.

The Future of Computer Science and Robotics

Looking ahead, the partnership of computer science and robotics promises even more transformative innovations.

Advances in AI and Cognitive Robotics

Future robots will not only execute programmed tasks but will understand context, learn from minimal data, and exhibit forms of reasoning. Developments in deep learning, natural language processing, and neuromorphic computing are paving the way for robots that can collaborate seamlessly with humans.

Human-Robot Interaction (HRI)

Improving communication between humans and robots through intuitive interfaces and empathetic AI is a growing field. Computer science research in speech recognition, gesture interpretation, and affective computing enables robots to respond appropriately to human emotions and commands.

Swarm Robotics and Distributed Systems

Inspired by social insects, swarm robotics involves multiple robots working collectively to achieve goals. This requires sophisticated distributed algorithms and networked communication protocols, areas rich with computer science research.

Tips for Aspiring Professionals Interested in Computer Science and Robotics

If you're fascinated by how computer science and robotics come together, here are some pointers to help you on your journey:

- **Build a strong foundation in programming languages** like Python, C++, or Java, which are commonly used in robotics.
- **Study algorithms and data structures** thoroughly, as they form the backbone of efficient robotic software.
- **Gain hands-on experience with robotics platforms** such as ROS (Robot Operating System), Arduino, or Raspberry Pi to understand hardware-software integration.
- **Explore AI and machine learning fundamentals** to develop smarter robotic applications.
- **Stay updated with emerging technologies** by following research papers, tech blogs, and participating in robotics competitions or hackathons.

Computer science and robotics continue to evolve rapidly, opening up exciting career paths and opportunities for innovation. Whether you're building autonomous drones, surgical robots, or intelligent assistants, the fusion of these fields offers a world of possibilities waiting to be explored.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the latest advancements in robotics for

automation?

Recent advancements in robotics for automation include the development of collaborative robots (cobots) that work alongside humans, improved AI algorithms for better decision-making, enhanced sensors for precise navigation, and the integration of machine learning to enable adaptive behaviors.

How is artificial intelligence transforming the field of robotics?

Artificial intelligence is transforming robotics by enabling machines to learn from their environment, make autonomous decisions, recognize objects, process natural language, and improve performance over time through machine learning techniques.

What programming languages are most commonly used in robotics?

Common programming languages used in robotics include Python, C++, and ROS (Robot Operating System) specific languages or frameworks. Python is favored for AI integration, while C++ is used for real-time performance-critical tasks.

What role does computer vision play in robotics?

Computer vision allows robots to interpret and understand visual information from the environment, enabling tasks such as object recognition, navigation, manipulation, and interaction with humans and other objects.

How can machine learning improve robotic control systems?

Machine learning improves robotic control systems by allowing robots to adapt to new environments, optimize their movements, predict outcomes, and handle complex tasks without explicit programming for every scenario.

What are the ethical concerns related to robotics and AI in society?

Ethical concerns include job displacement due to automation, privacy issues from surveillance robots, decision-making transparency in AI-driven robots, safety risks, and the potential misuse of robotic technologies.

How is edge computing impacting robotics

applications?

Edge computing impacts robotics by enabling data processing closer to the robot, reducing latency, improving real-time decision-making, and decreasing reliance on cloud connectivity, which is crucial for autonomous operations.

What are swarm robotics and their potential applications?

Swarm robotics involves multiple robots working collectively to perform tasks through decentralized control and simple individual behaviors. Applications include search and rescue, agricultural monitoring, environmental surveillance, and military operations.

How do sensors contribute to the functionality of robots?

Sensors provide essential data about the robot's environment and internal status, such as distance, temperature, pressure, and motion, enabling the robot to perceive, navigate, and interact effectively with its surroundings.

What is the significance of the Robot Operating System (ROS) in modern robotics?

ROS is significant because it provides a flexible framework for writing robot software, offering tools, libraries, and conventions that simplify the development, simulation, and deployment of complex robotic systems.

Additional Resources

Computer Science and Robotics: Exploring the Synergy of Two Cutting-Edge Fields

computer science and robotics represent two intertwined disciplines that have drastically transformed modern technology and industry. As robotics integrates increasingly complex computational algorithms, the role of computer science becomes indispensable in designing intelligent, autonomous machines capable of performing a wide range of tasks. This article delves into the dynamic relationship between these fields, examining how advancements in computer science propel robotics forward and how robotics challenges and enriches computational research.

The Interdependence of Computer Science and

Robotics

Robotics, at its core, involves the conception, design, construction, and operation of robots—mechanical agents capable of carrying out tasks autonomously or semi-autonomously. However, the physical hardware alone is insufficient without the sophisticated software that governs perception, decision-making, and control. This is where computer science becomes pivotal, providing the underlying theories, algorithms, and programming paradigms necessary for robotic intelligence.

From path planning and sensor integration to machine learning and computer vision, computer science offers essential tools that enable robots to interpret their environment, learn from data, and adapt to new situations. Without advances in areas such as artificial intelligence (AI), data structures, and real-time computing, modern robotics would remain rudimentary.

Role of Artificial Intelligence in Robotics

Artificial intelligence, a prominent branch of computer science, plays a crucial role in enhancing robotic capabilities. Machine learning algorithms allow robots to improve performance through experience, enabling applications in autonomous vehicles, industrial automation, and even healthcare.

For example, deep learning models process vast amounts of sensor data to recognize patterns or objects in the environment with remarkable accuracy. Robotics systems embedded with AI can dynamically adjust to unforeseen obstacles or changes, a significant leap from traditional pre-programmed machines.

Computer Vision and Sensor Fusion

Another critical intersection lies in computer vision, which equips robots with the ability to 'see' and interpret visual data. Computer science methodologies enable robots to analyze images and video streams, identifying objects, estimating distances, and understanding spatial relationships.

Sensor fusion techniques, combining data from multiple sources like LiDAR, cameras, and ultrasonic sensors, rely on computational models to produce a coherent representation of the environment. This fusion is vital for applications such as drone navigation, warehouse automation, and surgical robotics.

Technological Advancements Driving Robotics

The evolution of computer science has led to significant technological breakthroughs that have shaped modern robotics. The exponential growth in computational power, coupled with improved algorithms, has empowered robots to operate more efficiently and autonomously.

Real-Time Processing and Embedded Systems

Robotic systems require real-time data processing to respond promptly to environmental changes. Embedded systems, a fusion of hardware and software, are designed to meet these stringent latency demands. Computer science research in operating systems, middleware, and real-time scheduling directly impacts the reliability and responsiveness of robotic platforms.

Programming Languages and Frameworks

The development of specialized programming languages and software frameworks has streamlined robotic software development. Languages such as Python, C++, and ROS (Robot Operating System) provide modularity and reusability, accelerating innovation and deployment.

ROS, in particular, has become a de facto standard, offering libraries and tools that simplify sensor integration, actuator control, and simulation. This synergy between software engineering principles and robotic hardware reduces development cycles and fosters collaboration across disciplines.

Challenges and Ethical Considerations

While the fusion of computer science and robotics unlocks tremendous potential, it also introduces challenges that require careful consideration.

Technical Hurdles

Despite progress, robotics continues to face obstacles related to perception accuracy, decision-making under uncertainty, and energy efficiency. Computer science research is actively pursuing solutions in probabilistic algorithms, reinforcement learning, and low-power computing to address these issues.

Ethical and Societal Implications

As robots become more autonomous, questions arise concerning accountability, privacy, and the impact on employment. The design of ethical AI systems within robotics demands interdisciplinary collaboration to ensure transparency, fairness, and safety.

Applications Transforming Industries

The integration of computer science and robotics is reshaping numerous sectors, driving productivity and innovation.

- Manufacturing: Robotics automation powered by sophisticated control algorithms increases efficiency and precision in assembly lines.
- **Healthcare:** Surgical robots leverage computer vision and AI to assist surgeons, enhancing outcomes and reducing invasiveness.
- Logistics: Autonomous drones and robotic vehicles optimize inventory management and last-mile delivery through advanced navigation algorithms.
- Exploration: Robotics equipped with AI explore hazardous or inaccessible environments, from deep oceans to extraterrestrial landscapes.

Future Directions in Computer Science and Robotics

Emerging trends indicate a continued convergence of these domains. Explainable AI, human-robot interaction, and swarm robotics are gaining traction, each presenting unique computational challenges and opportunities. Moreover, quantum computing holds promise for solving complex optimization problems in robotics more efficiently.

As research progresses, the collaboration between computer scientists and roboticists will be paramount in realizing intelligent systems that augment human capabilities while adhering to ethical standards.

The interplay between computer science and robotics continues to be a fertile ground for innovation, blending hardware ingenuity with algorithmic sophistication. This dynamic partnership not only shapes the future of automation but also redefines the possibilities of technology in society.

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computer science and robotics: Robotics And Automation computer science and engineering Prof. Dr. Dileep Kumar M, Dr. Uppin Chandrashekhar, S. R. Jena, Dr. Sohit Agarwal, 2025-05-03 The concept of robots may be seen as highly developed automated systems when viewed from a certain point of view. In addition, robotics may be seen as both a scientific area and a technology that has emerged from automation via the collaborative efforts of several other fields of endeavour. These are some other viewpoints about robotics. In general, an automated system requires relatively little in the way of intelligence or manipulation, yet it may be simply programmed to achieve productivity goals. This is because it is able to function without human intervention. Additionally, it is feasible for the system to do some processes more than once. Keeping in mind that the mechanical structure of an automated system often only permits it to do the one task for which it was created is an essential point to bear in mind. The capacity of a control unit to be reprogrammed is what determines the degree of flexibility that it possesses; in the majority of cases, it is simply able to adjust the timing of the actions that have been defined. Hardware is responsible for supplying the mechanical capability to carry out an operation of movement and/or manipulation that has been predetermined in advance. This capability comprises mechanical, electrical, pneumatic, and hydraulic components. Hardware is also responsible for giving the capability to carry out the operation. Because the control and operation counterpart is composed of software and electrical components, the system is able to work independently and with a degree of flexibility. This is made possible by the system's capacity to function independently. Both of these are necessary elements that make up an automated system, and they work together to accomplish their respective functions. It is necessary to consider their design and operation as separate but complementary aims in order to attain and maintain optimal performance in an automated system. This is because they are so dependent on one another that they are unable to function without one another.

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the series: The Pocket Einstein series is a collection of essential pocket-sized guides for anyone looking to understand a little more about some of the most important and fascinating areas of science in the twenty-first century. Broken down into ten simple lessons and written by leading experts in their field, the books reveal the ten most important takeaways from those areas of science you've always wanted to know more about.

computer science and robotics: Navigating Computer Science Education in the 21st Century Bosch, Chantelle, Goosen, Leila, Chetty, Jacqui, 2024-02-26 Students often face challenges in a swiftly advancing Computer Science Education (CSE), where technologies evolve rapidly, and concepts unfold with overwhelming intricacies. As society becomes interwoven with technology, how essential is the integration of CSE into the educational framework to adequately equip future generations for the complexities of the digital era? Navigating Computer Science Education in the 21st Century advocates integrating CSE into curricula, underlining its crucial role in early childhood development. The book grapples with the challenge of introducing children to technology responsibly, addressing concerns about unmonitored screen time while emphasizing the necessity of evidence-based approaches for educators. Within these pages, effective teaching strategies are linked to successes in CSE. The book explores learner-centered teaching methodologies in computer science, emphasizing individualized instruction, active learning, and collaborative approaches. It evaluates the effectiveness of traditional lecture-based teaching against more innovative strategies such as game-based learning and collaborative approaches. By presenting studies that delve into the impact of these strategies on student engagement and motivation, the book equips educators with the insights needed to make informed decisions tailored to diverse learning environments.

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computer science and robotics: Smart STEM-Driven Computer Science Education Vytautas Štuikys, Renata Burbaitė, 2018-06-28 At the centre of the methodology used in this book is STEM learning variability space that includes STEM pedagogical variability, learners' social variability, technological variability, CS content variability and interaction variability. To design smart components, firstly, the STEM learning variability space is defined for each component separately, and then model-driven approaches are applied. The theoretical basis includes feature-based modelling and model transformations at the top specification level and heterogeneous meta-programming techniques at the implementation level. Practice includes multiple case studies oriented for solving the task prototypes, taken from the real world, by educational robots. These case studies illustrate the process of gaining interdisciplinary knowledge pieces identified as S-knowledge, T-knowledge, E-knowledge, M-knowledge or integrated STEM knowledge and evaluate smart components from the pedagogical and technological perspectives based on data gathered from one real teaching setting. Smart STEM-Driven Computer Science Education: Theory, Methodology and Robot-based Practices outlines the overall capabilities of the proposed approach and also points out the drawbacks from the viewpoint of different actors, i.e. researchers, designers, teachers and learners.

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computer science and robotics: Handbook of Research on Using Educational Robotics to Facilitate Student Learning Papadakis, Stamatios, Kalogiannakis, Michail, 2020-12-05 Over the last few years, increasing attention has been focused on the development of children's acquisition of 21st-century skills and digital competences. Consequently, many education scholars have argued that teaching technology to young children is vital in keeping up with 21st-century employment patterns. Technologies, such as those that involve robotics or coding apps, come at a time when the demand for computing jobs around the globe is at an all-time high while its supply is at an all-time low. There is no doubt that coding with robotics is a wonderful tool for learners of all ages as it provides a catalyst to introduce them to computational thinking, algorithmic thinking, and project management. Additionally, recent studies argue that the use of a developmentally appropriate robotics curriculum can help to change negative stereotypes and ideas children may initially have about technology and engineering. The Handbook of Research on Using Educational Robotics to Facilitate Student Learning is an edited book that advocates for a new approach to computational thinking and computing education with the use of educational robotics and coding apps. The book argues that while learning about computing, young people should also have opportunities to create with computing, which have a direct impact on their lives and their communities. It develops two key dimensions for understanding and developing educational experiences that support students in engaging in computational action: (1) computational identity, which shows the importance of young people's development of scientific identity for future STEM growth; and (2) digital empowerment to instill the belief that they can put their computational identity into action in authentic and meaningful ways. Covering subthemes including student competency and assessment, programming education, and teacher and mentor development, this book is ideal for teachers, instructional designers, educational technology developers, school administrators, academicians, researchers, and students.

computer science and robotics: Effective Computer Science Education in K-12 Classrooms Kert, Serhat Bahadır, 2024-12-13 The growing influence of information technologies in everyday life has underscored the increasing importance of computer science education. The goal of computer science education is not merely to teach students how to code but to develop individuals with strong problem-solving abilities. Pedagogy-driven concepts such as computational thinking and computational participation highlight the problem-solving dimension of computer science and are shaping learning approaches worldwide. Effective instructional design is critical for environments where these concepts are taught. The proposed book, Effective Computer Science Education in K-12 Classrooms, aims to offer a scientific and holistic instructional roadmap for educators at the K-12 level. By detailing concrete educational approaches, this book will provide valuable insights and strategies to enhance the quality and efficiency of computer science education. It will serve as a guide for educators seeking to develop content and teaching methods that are both pedagogically sound and highly effective in building problem-solving skills among students.

computer science and robotics: Handbook of Research on Equity in Computer Science in P-16 Education Keengwe, Jared, Tran, Yune, 2020-11-13 The growing trend for high-quality computer science in school curricula has drawn recent attention in classrooms. With an increasingly information-based and global society, computer science education coupled with computational thinking has become an integral part of an experience for all students, given that these foundational concepts and skills intersect cross-disciplinarily with a set of mental competencies that are relevant in their daily lives and work. While many agree that these concepts should be taught in schools, there are systematic inequities that exist to prevent students from accessing related computer science skills. The Handbook of Research on Equity in Computer Science in P-16 Education is a comprehensive reference book that highlights relevant issues, perspectives, and challenges in P-16 environments that relate to the inequities that students face in accessing computer science or computational thinking and examines methods for challenging these inequities in hopes of allowing all students equal opportunities for learning these skills. Additionally, it explores the challenges and policies that are created to limit access and thus reinforce systems of power and privilege. The chapters highlight issues, perspectives, and challenges faced in P-16 environments that include gender and racial imbalances, population of growing computer science teachers who are predominantly white and male, teacher preparation or lack of faculty expertise, professional development programs, and more. It is intended for teacher educators, K-12 teachers, high school counselors, college faculty in the computer science department, school administrators, curriculum and instructional designers, directors of teaching and learning centers, policymakers, researchers, and students.

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 $computational\ thinking,\ programming,\ and\ robotics\ can\ change\ the\ current\ education\ system.$

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computer science and robotics: Robotics Diploma and Engineering Interview Questions and Answers: Exploring Robotics Chetan Singh, Robotics Diploma and Engineering Interview Questions and Answers: Exploring Robotics is an extensive guide designed to help individuals navigate the competitive world of robotics interviews. Whether you are a fresh graduate, an experienced professional, or an aspiring robotics engineer, this robotics book equips you with the knowledge and confidence to ace your interviews. Structured as a question-and-answer format, this book covers a wide range of topics relevant to robotics diploma and engineering interviews. It begins with an overview of the fundamentals, including the history, evolution, and importance of robotics, ensuring you have a solid foundation before diving into the interview-specific content. Delve into various technical areas of robotics, such as mechanical engineering, electrical and electronic engineering, computer science and programming, control and automation, sensing and perception, and more. Each section presents commonly asked interview questions along with detailed, extended answers, ensuring you are well-prepared to showcase your expertise and problem-solving skills. Explore mechanical engineering for robotics, including the components, kinematics, dynamics, and structures that form the backbone of robotic systems. Gain insights into actuators and motors, their applications, and how they enable precise and controlled robot movements. Dive into electrical and electronic engineering specific to robotics, understanding the role of sensors and transducers in capturing environmental data and enabling robot interaction. Learn about electronics, circuit analysis, control systems, and power systems tailored for robotic applications. Uncover the essentials of computer science and programming in the context of robotics. Discover the programming languages commonly used in robotics, understand algorithms and data structures optimized for efficient robot behaviors, and explore the fields of perception and computer vision, machine learning, and artificial intelligence as they apply to robotics. Master control and automation in robotics, including feedback control systems, the PID control algorithm, various control architectures, trajectory planning, motion control, and techniques for robot localization and mapping. Develop a deep understanding of robot sensing and perception, covering environmental sensing, object detection and recognition, localization and mapping techniques, simultaneous localization and mapping (SLAM), and the critical aspects of human-robot interaction and perception. Furthermore, this book provides valuable guidance on robot programming and simulation, including programming languages specific to robotics, the Robot Operating System (ROS), robot simulation tools, and best practices for software development in the robotics field. The final sections of the robotics engineering book explore the design and development process for robotics, safety considerations, and emerging trends in the industry. Gain insights into the future of

robotics and engineering, the integration of robotics in Industry 4.0, and the ethical and social implications of these advancements. Robotics Diploma and Engineering Interview Questions and Answers: Exploring Robotics is your ultimate resource to prepare for robotics interviews, offering a complete collection of interview questions and in-depth answers. Arm yourself with the knowledge and confidence needed to succeed in landing your dream job in the dynamic and rapidly evolving field of robotics.

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computer science and robotics: Springer Handbook of Robotics Bruno Siciliano, Oussama Khatib, 2016-07-27 The second edition of this handbook provides a state-of-the-art overview on the various aspects in the rapidly developing field of robotics. Reaching for the human frontier, robotics is vigorously engaged in the growing challenges of new emerging domains. Interacting, exploring, and working with humans, the new generation of robots will increasingly touch people and their lives. The credible prospect of practical robots among humans is the result of the scientific endeavour of a half a century of robotic developments that established robotics as a modern scientific discipline. The ongoing vibrant expansion and strong growth of the field during the last decade has fueled this second edition of the Springer Handbook of Robotics. The first edition of the handbook soon became a landmark in robotics publishing and won the American Association of Publishers PROSE Award for Excellence in Physical Sciences & Mathematics as well as the organization's Award for Engineering & Technology. The second edition of the handbook, edited by two internationally renowned scientists with the support of an outstanding team of seven part editors and more than 200 authors, continues to be an authoritative reference for robotics researchers, newcomers to the field, and scholars from related disciplines. The contents have been restructured to achieve four main objectives: the enlargement of foundational topics for robotics, the enlightenment of design of various types of robotic systems, the extension of the treatment on robots moving in the environment, and the enrichment of advanced robotics applications. Further to an extensive update, fifteen new chapters have been introduced on emerging topics, and a new generation of authors have joined the handbook's team. A novel addition to the second edition is a comprehensive collection of multimedia references to more than 700 videos, which bring valuable insight into the contents. The videos can be viewed directly augmented into the text with a smartphone or tablet using a unique and specially designed app. Springer Handbook of Robotics Multimedia Extension Portal: http://handbookofrobotics.org/

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