



IJIRCCCE

e-ISSN: 2320-9801 | p-ISSN: 2320-9798



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF INNOVATIVE RESEARCH

IN COMPUTER & COMMUNICATION ENGINEERING

Volume 12, Issue 5, May 2024

ISSN INTERNATIONAL
STANDARD
SERIAL
NUMBER
INDIA

Impact Factor: 8.379



9940 572 462



6381 907 438



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Autonomous Ball-Picking Robot with Voice-Activated Color Detection

Sagar Shinde, Rutuja Pawale, Aryan Arlikar, Neeraj More, Manish More

Department of Computer Engineering, Savitribai Phule Pune University, WCOE Pune, Maharashtra, India

ABSTRACT: Autonomous Ball-Picking Robot with Voice-Activated Color Detection utilizes modern robotics, computer vision, and natural language processing to improve the collection and sorting of colored objects. This unique robot can explore its environment automatically, recognize and distinguish colored balls, and respond to voice directions for smooth functioning. The system's primary components include a mobile robot equipped with sensors, cameras, and a color identification algorithm capable of accurately recognizing and categorizing colored balls. Voice recognition technology enables users to easily communicate with the robot, providing commands to pick specific balls. Real-time mapping and path planning algorithms help the robot navigate autonomously, allowing it to efficiently explore complex areas. It can sort and gather colored balls while optimizing movement to save time and energy.

KEYWORDS: Autonomous, Ball-Picking Robot, Voice-Activated, Colour-Detection, Robotics, Computer Vision, Navigation, Color recognition, Human-Robot Interaction

I. INTRODUCTION

The Autonomous Ball-Picking Robot with Voice-Activated Color Detection is a cutting-edge technology that has the potential to revolutionize how we interact with and utilize robots. This novel robotic system is designed to navigate its environment autonomously, detect colored things, and respond to voice commands, providing a comprehensive solution to the issues of object recognition and human-robot interaction. The integration of robotics, computer vision, and natural language processing has given rise to a new era of robotics where machines can not only recognize and manipulate objects in their surroundings but also respond to human instructions in a more intuitive and user-friendly manner. This groundbreaking technology is poised to find applications in education, industry, and beyond, showcasing the limitless potential of human-robot collaboration. The following paper will discuss the Autonomous Ball-Picking Robot with Voice-Activated Color Detection and its potential uses in education and industry. This robot combines automation and communication, offering a more efficient and engaging future with robots.

II. RELATED WORK

In the domain of autonomous robotics and image processing, machine learning methodologies are crucial, enabling the extraction of relevant data from visual inputs. This [3] overviews existing voice command classification strategies, including classical and neural network-based approaches. This research established a mechanism for using voice instructions for PLCs and SCADA systems, commonly used in industrial automation. It emphasizes the limitations of standard approaches in industrial contexts. The [8] research examines and assesses sorting technologies and processes as of right now. It provides insights into the development of sorting systems and illuminates the advantages and disadvantages of current methodologies. It offers a thorough grasp of the difficulties and shortcomings of traditional sorting techniques, which frequently rely on physical labour or mechanical equipment. An overview of the various ways that humans and robots might interact in industrial settings, such as remote monitoring, planned sequences, and manual control, can be found in [13]. It also goes through earlier studies on virtual assistants and how they might improve human-robot communication. Digital apps and software have been created to improve and alter colour perception on computer screens and mobile devices, according to [18]. The TDPPL-Net model is introduced in [22] to address the difficulties of choosing tomatoes in natural settings, such as intricate lighting circumstances and overlapping fruits. A thorough examination of these difficulties is given. The report also provides a concise but understandable summary of the architecture of the model and highlights its main advancements over the YOLOv5 framework. An important advancement in the field is the incorporation of depth information for 3D localization using an Intel RealSense D435 camera. This research presents the TDPPL-Net model, which shows potential for automated tomato harvesting. It makes a significant addition to the discipline because of its effective design, adaptation to natural surroundings, and emphasis on real-time performance. A thorough history and current state of Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR) research are given in [28], which also offers insightful information about the field's obstacles and

achievements. It is instructive because of its focus on elucidating the inner workings of ASR and the intricacy of speech recognition. For anyone interested in voice interaction technologies, it's an interesting read, as these insights might be relevant to the development of speech-activated control systems in robots.

III. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

The methodology that has been suggested for the development of an autonomous robot that can pick balls and recognize colors is a thorough framework that smoothly combines advanced system architecture, software algorithms, and hardware components. This all-encompassing strategy is intended to guarantee reliable performance and robot autonomy. We go into further detail about the main elements of this process below:

1. Hardware Components Integration
2. Software Algorithms Development
3. System Architecture Design
4. Experimental Validation and Performance Evaluation

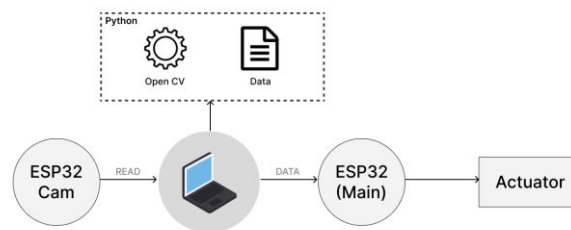


Fig. 1: Proposed Architecture

Figure 1 represents the proposed model architecture of the Autonomous Ball-Picking Robot with Voice-Activated Color Detection.

A. Hardware Components Integration

In the project, hardware components enable autonomous navigation, object detection, and user interaction. Sensors, actuators, and microcontrollers play pivotal roles in shaping the robot's capabilities. Their integration forms the backbone of the autonomous system's functionality.

1. **Sensors:**
The robot is equipped with various sensors to perceive its environment accurately and facilitate autonomous operation. These sensors include:
 2. **Camera:**
Utilized for capturing visual data of the surroundings, the camera serves as input for the ball recognition algorithm implemented using OpenCV libraries.
 3. **Depth Sensor (e.g., LiDAR):**
In conjunction with the camera, the depth sensor provides spatial information, enabling the robot to perceive the three-dimensional layout of the environment. This information is crucial for precise navigation and object manipulation.
4. **Actuators:**
Actuators are responsible for executing physical actions based on the instructions generated by the control system. The robot employs the following actuators:
 5. **Manipulator Arm:**
A robotic arm equipped with grippers facilitates the picking up of balls detected in the environment. The arm's movements are coordinated based on the output of the motion planning algorithm, ensuring precise and efficient ball retrieval.

6. Wheels or Tracks:

These locomotion mechanisms enable the robot to navigate through the environment autonomously. Motion commands generated by the control system drive the wheels or tracks, allowing the robot to reach target locations for ball retrieval.

7. Microcontrollers:

The microcontroller serves as the central processing unit of the robot, orchestrating the interaction between sensors, actuators, and software components. Its role encompasses:

1. Data Fusion and Sensor Integration:

The microcontroller processes data from various sensors, combining visual and spatial information to generate a comprehensive understanding of the robot's surroundings.

2. Control Signal Generation:

Based on inputs from the software components, the microcontroller generates control signals to drive the actuators, orchestrating the robot's movements and actions.

B. Software Algorithms Development

1. Ball Detection Algorithm:

Leveraging OpenCV libraries, the ball recognition algorithm analyzes images captured by the camera to identify spherical objects resembling balls within the environment. Key components of the algorithm include:

2. Color Segmentation:

Utilizing color thresholding techniques, the algorithm isolates regions in the image that exhibit colors characteristic of the balls.

3. Contour Detection:

Employing contour detection algorithms, the algorithm identifies candidate regions corresponding to potential ball objects based on their shape characteristics.

4. Motion Planning Algorithm:

The motion planning algorithm is responsible for generating trajectories and motion commands to guide the robot towards target locations for ball retrieval. It encompasses:

5. Path Planning:

Using spatial information from the depth sensor, the algorithm computes optimal paths for navigating the robot to the vicinity of detected balls while avoiding obstacles.

6. Collision Avoidance:

Incorporating collision detection mechanisms, the algorithm ensures safe navigation by dynamically adjusting the robot's trajectory to avoid collisions with static and dynamic obstacles.

7. Voice Command Processing:

To enable human-robot interaction, voice commands are processed using speech recognition algorithms integrated with the OpenCV libraries. The voice command processing component involves:

8. Speech-to-Text Conversion:

Utilizing speech recognition techniques, the component converts spoken commands into text format for further processing.

9. Command Interpretation:

Extracting semantic meaning from the recognized text, the component interprets the user's instructions and generates corresponding action commands for the robot.

C. System Architecture Design

1. Perception Layer:

The perception layer, positioned at the lowest level of the architecture, acquires and processes sensory data from the environment. Utilizing cameras and LiDAR sensors, it facilitates object detection, localization, and mapping. Advanced computer vision algorithms, such as color segmentation and contour detection, are employed to process raw sensor data and identify objects, including balls, while accurately detecting their colors.

2. Decision Making Layer:

The decision-making layer, located above the perception layer, processes information to make informed decisions and generate responses. It houses algorithms for ball detection, color recognition, and motion planning, enabling the robot to interpret sensory data and act according to predefined objectives and user commands. Machine learning techniques can enhance decision-making, enabling adaptation to dynamic environments and learning from experience.

3. Actuation Layer:

The actuation layer, positioned at the architecture's peak, translates decisions from the decision-making layer into physical actions. Robotic arms and grippers execute tasks like ball retrieval and placement. Microcontrollers act as control units, coordinating actuator operation for seamless movement and manipulation.

D. Experimental Validation and Performance Evaluation

1. Test Cases:

Several test cases are devised to comprehensively evaluate the capabilities of the autonomous robot in different situations as follows:

Ball Detection Test: This test evaluates the robot's ability to accurately detect and locate balls of varying sizes and colors within its environment. Test cases involve single and multiple ball scenarios, as well as scenarios with balls placed in cluttered environments to assess robustness.

2. Color Recognition Test: The color recognition test assesses the robot's capability to correctly identify the colors of detected balls. Test cases involve balls of different colors arranged in various configurations to evaluate the system's accuracy and consistency in color classification.

3. Voice Command Execution Test: This test evaluates the robot's responsiveness and accuracy in executing commands received via voice input. Test cases include issuing commands for ball selection based on color and directing the robot to pick and deposit balls at specified locations

4. Performance Parameters:

To quantitatively measure the performance of the autonomous robot, the following parameters are considered:

5. Detection Accuracy:

The percentage of correctly detected balls out of the total number of balls present in the scene. This parameter provides insight into the system's effectiveness in identifying target objects.

6. Color Recognition Accuracy:

The accuracy of color classification, measured as the percentage of correctly identified colors among the detected balls. This parameter indicates the system's proficiency in distinguishing between different colors.

7. Execution Success Rate:

The percentage of successfully executed commands in response to voice inputs. This parameter reflects the system's reliability and responsiveness in carrying out user instructions.

8. Result Metrics:

The performance of the autonomous robot is assessed based on the following result metrics:

9. Detection Precision and Recall:

Precision measures the proportion of true positive detections among all positive detections, while recall measures the proportion of true positive detections among all actual positives. These metrics provide a comprehensive evaluation of the ball detection algorithm's accuracy and completeness.

10. Color Classification Confusion Matrix:

A confusion matrix is constructed to visualize the accuracy of color classification, showing the number of correctly and incorrectly classified instances for each color category. This matrix aids in identifying any color recognition errors and evaluating the system's overall performance.

11. Command Execution Time:

The average time taken by the robot to execute voice commands is recorded and analyzed to assess system responsiveness and efficiency.

VI. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the development and implementation of the Autonomous Ball Picking Robot with Color Detection project have culminated in the creation of a versatile and efficient robotic system capable of autonomously picking up balls and accurately detecting their colors in unstructured environments. Through the integration of sophisticated hardware components, advanced software algorithms, and a meticulously designed system architecture, the project has successfully addressed the challenges associated with autonomous object manipulation and color recognition.

Moving forward, potential avenues for future research and development include further optimization of algorithms for enhanced real-time performance, exploration of robustness in challenging environmental conditions, and integration of additional functionalities to expand the robot's capabilities. Overall, the Autonomous Ball Picking Robot with Color Detection project represents a significant step towards the advancement of autonomous robotics, with promising implications for a wide range of applications, including warehouse automation, agriculture, and search and rescue operations.

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