

PERSON FOLLOWING ROBOT: MOTION PLANNING & CONTROL

ABSTRACTS

A Person Following Robot or PFR constitutes a range of wheeled mobile robots for assistive and human-robot collaborative applications in hospitals, airports, malls, metro stations, warehouses, and military. This involves real-time path and motion planning with dynamic environment with humans and other robots. Because, these require advanced control, MPC comes to rescue, while ROS is used for commercial programming platform.

OBJECTIVE

To optimize a single MPC with a cost function to follow the person, and constraints for smoothness, obstacle avoidance, and safety in a social surrounding.

- Track the person and retain FOV at all times.
- Avoid static and dynamic obstacles.
- Safe operation with human factor
- Predict out-of-sight scenarios, and avoid it
- Early relocation to avoid loss of target person

METHOD

Receding Horizon Control

- Kinematics
- Penalize Vx, Vy
- Proxemics
- Local Map
- Interior-Point Solver
- Unicycle Model
- Path Generate, & Optimize

$$\text{minimize}_{v_x, v_y} \sum_{j=1}^N (v_x(j) - v_x^{pref}(j))^2 + (v_y(j) - v_y^{pref}(j))^2 \quad (4)$$

subject to

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x_{t+dt} &= x_t + v_x \cos(\theta_t) dt \\ y_{t+dt} &= y_t + v_y \sin(\theta_t) dt \\ \theta_{t+dt} &= \theta_t + \frac{d\theta}{dt} dt \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (5)$$

$$x_{t+dt} - \begin{pmatrix} x_t^{obs1} \\ x_t^{obs2} \\ \vdots \\ x_t^{obsN} \end{pmatrix} + y_{t+dt} - \begin{pmatrix} y_t^{obs1} \\ y_t^{obs2} \\ \vdots \\ y_t^{obsN} \end{pmatrix} \geq (r_{bot} + r_{clear})^2 \quad (6)$$

$$(\theta_{bot} + \beta)^2 \leq \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{y_t^{person} - y_t^{bot}}{x_t^{person} - x_t^{bot}} \right) \leq (\theta_{bot} - \beta)^2$$

