

NUCLEAR AND APPLIED ROBOTICS GROUP

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN



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TEXAS

The University of Texas at Austin

DOE-FIU SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

APPLIED RESEARCH CENTER

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

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UNDERGRADUATE
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING



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SUMMER MENTOR



BACKGROUND



H-Canyon Air Exhaust (CAEX)

- 30+ mph air flow
- Acid vapors
- Alpha contamination
- High beta and gamma dose
- Uneven floor surfaces
- Obstacle debris
- “Muddy” paths
- 30+ cm of standing water
- Overhead obstacles

5 crawlers deployed since 2003

- Varying levels of success





BACKGROUND

Need for a system with:

- Ability to right itself if tipped
- Better methods of inspection behind hanging ducts, pipes, and other obstacles
- A more robust method for overcoming obstacles
- The ability to be deployed in the existing port (30" diameter)

There is a desire to:

- Collect SLAM data from LIDAR and other sensors
- Collect core samples and possibly NDT of the tunnel walls
- Provide more data past video imaging (radiation survey data, collect soil/water samples, structural images via NDT techniques such as neutron radiography, etc.)



OBJECTIVES/SCOPE

UT has assembled a team to develop a hybrid mobile platform capable of maneuvering using wheels, treads, or articulated legs and provide video feedback



UT has previously developed a dual-arm mobile manipulator (Vaultbot) for inspection and radiation surveying

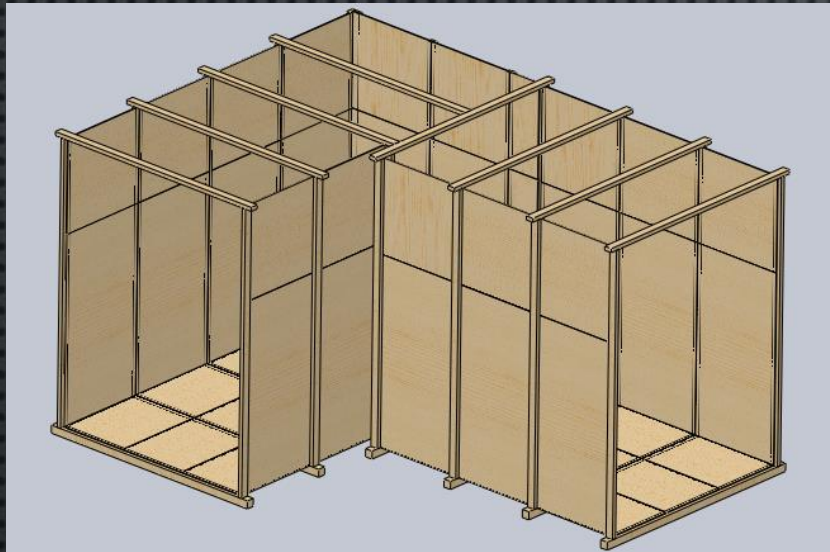


Assigned tasks:

- Assist in the construction of a mock tunnel for testing
- Integrate Vaultbot in Gazebo for simulation using ROS
- Assist in the integration of FIU's miniature inspection tool with UT's current systems



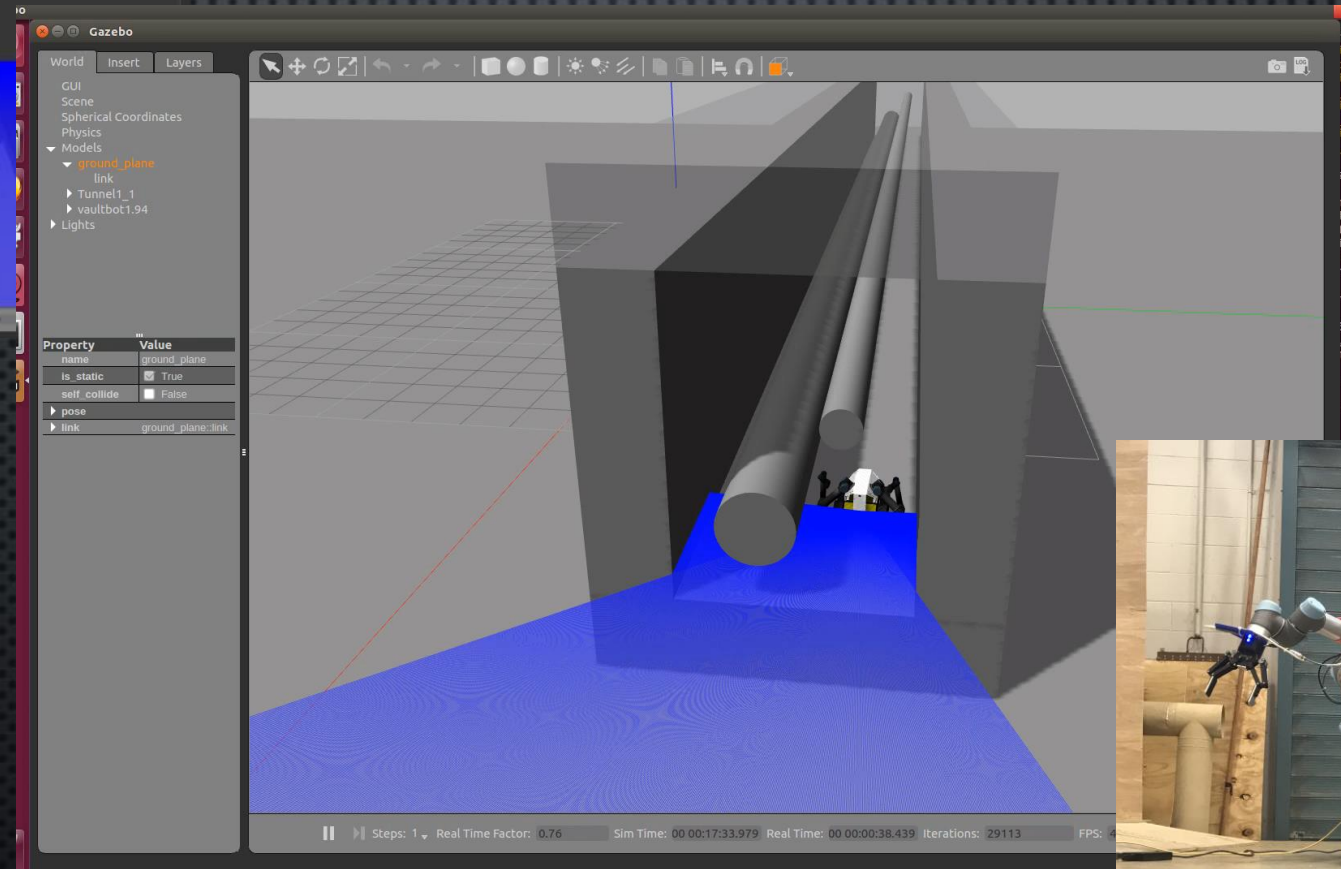
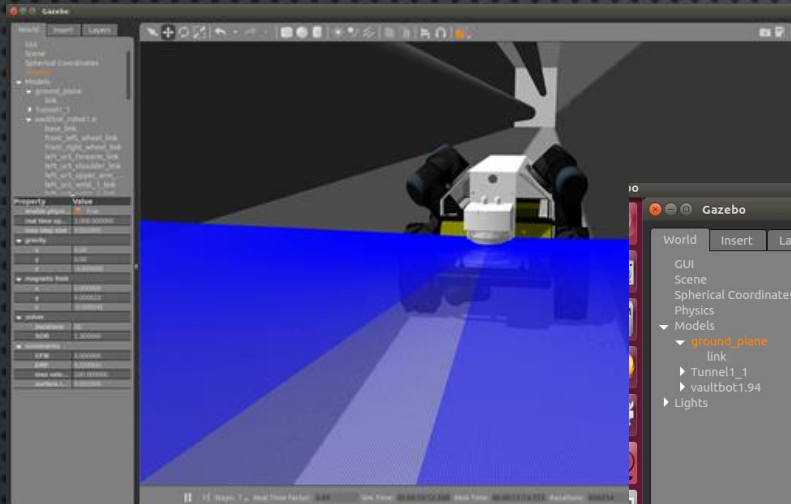
PROGRESS



PROGRESS



GAZEBO SIMULATION



PROGRESS



The screenshot displays a motion planning software interface. On the left, a 'Displays' panel shows a tree view with 'MotionPlanning' selected. Below it, a 'MotionPlanning' panel contains several sections: 'Commands' with buttons for 'Plan', 'Execute', 'Plan and Execute', and 'Stop'; 'Query' with 'Select Start State' and 'Select Goal State' dropdowns; and 'Options' with sliders for 'Planning Time (s): 5.00', 'Planning Attempts: 10.00', and 'Velocity Scaling: 1.00', along with checkboxes for 'Allow Replanning', 'Allow Sensor Positioning', and 'Allow External Comm.'. A 'Workspace' section at the bottom left has 'Center (XYZ)' and 'Size (XYZ)' fields. The main 3D view shows a blue robot arm in a grid environment. A 'Record' button is highlighted in the top-left panel. The bottom status bar shows 'Reset' and '30 fps'.



PROGRESS



The screenshot displays a motion planning software interface with the following components:

- File Panels Help** menu at the top.
- MotionPlanning** window title.
- Context** tabs: Planning, Manipulation, Scene Objects, Stored Scenes, Stored States, Status.
- Commands** section: Plan, Execute, Plan and Execute, Stop, Executed.
- Query** section: Select Start State, Select Goal State (set to 'home'), Update button.
- Options** section: Planning Time (s): 5.00, Planning Attempts: 10.00, Velocity Scaling: 1.00, Acceleration Scaling: 1.00, checkboxes for Allow Replanning, Allow Sensor Positioning, Allow External Comm., Path Constraints: None, Goal Tolerance: 0.00, Clear octomap button.
- Workspace** section: Center (XYZ) and Size (XYZ) input fields.
- Displays** section: MotionPlanning, Reset button.
- 3D Viewport**: Shows a robot arm model on a grid floor. The left view shows a top-down perspective with a colorful sensor field, while the right view shows a perspective view with a blue vertical line and red/green axes.
- Status Bar**: Real Time Factor: 0.99, Sim Time: 00:00:25:59.911, Real Time: 00:00:26:17.155, Iterations: 1559911, FPS: 54.69.

FUTURE WORK



- Continue working on Gazebo simulations

Integration of LIDAR and controllable arms



- Continue practicing ROS to apply at FIU

Become more knowledgeable of ROS

- Begin integration of FIU's systems with UT's

Miniature inspection tool deployable with UR5 arms



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