

UNIVERSITÀ Politecnica Delle Marche

ARTLearn - Adaptation and Real-Time LEARNing of modern robotic systems in "VUCA" scenario

Supervisor: Prof. Andrea Bonci

Department of Information Engineering <u>https://dii.univpm.it/</u>





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Research Group Description: the Supervisor

Prof. Andrea Bonci, PhD, MS, IEng.

Associate Professor in Control and Automation Engineering, DII, UNIVPM **Head of Automation Laboratory**, a facility based in the Faculty of Engineering, Marche Polytechnic University, Ancona.

Guest Professor at Rzeszow University of Technology, Poland. Plenary Speaker at "30th International Baltic conference on Materials Engineering and Modern Manufacturing 2023 (MEMM2023) Works as Expert for EU to evaluate MSCA and EU project proposals

More than 100 peer-reviewed research articles ORCID-id: <u>https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0265-1598</u> (<u>Publication List</u>, H-index 19 according to Google Scholar; H-index 16 according to Scopus). More than 20 years of experience in control engineering, robotics, optimization, nonlinear control, autonomous vehicles and systems, AI and ML, vehicles dynamics, industrial automation, robotic disassembly, embedded systems, cyber-physical-systems, diagnosis and maintenance.

Author of four Patents on industrial control applications Awarded project 1st prize: Edge4PdM-Edge computing for Predictive Maintenance and diagnosis of machine driven by an electric motor

Involved in several international and national projects.

European fundings:

- 2023-2026: **EDIH4Marche** "European Digital Innovation Hub for Marche", Horizon Europe Digital G.A. 101084027. It supports companies through digital innovation in the context of Industry 4.0 and in implementing company's digital strategy.

- 2019-2022: **ENCORE** "ENergy aware BIM cloud Platform in a Cost-effective Building REnovation Context", H2020 G.A. 820434. increase the share of renovated stock in Europe and worldwide by providing effective and affordable BIM tools that cover the whole renovation life-cycle (from data collection to project execution, and commissioning/delivery).

National fundings:

- 2024-2025: Proof of Concept VALUE (VALUing the outcomes of the UnivErsity research) "**Edge4PdM** - Edge computing for Predictive Maintenance and diagnosis of machine driven by an electric motor"

- 2023-2026: "CIRCULAR FASHION-robotic disassembly for circular fashion and digital solutions for eco-design of apparel and fashion products" funded by INVITALIA and Italian Ministry of Economic Development (MISE).

- 2023-2026: "**Perseo** - enhancement of the GUCCI Logistic S.p.A. and PIGINI S.r.l. production capacity of footwear articles, through technological development of new production methods and machinery" funded by Italian Ministry of Industry and Made in Italy (MIMIT).

- 2020-2024: **"Electrospindle 4.0** Zero Defect Manufacturing" funded by Italian Ministry of Economic Development (MISE).

- 2019-2022: **"ARTES 4.0**-Advanced Robotics and enabling digital TEchnologies & Systems 4.0" National Competence Center on Industry 4.0, funded by Italian Ministry of Economic Development (MISE).



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Research Group Description: Automation Lab Research Group



STAFF: The group is currently composed by an Assistant Professor, a Full Professor, a Researcher, a research fellows, three PhD students and two master students.

RESEARCH ACTIVITY

The Automation Lab facility is devoted to research & development and technology transfer activities, the main research topics of Automation Lab are: Embedded systems, Robotics and AI solutions, Control systems engineering and applications, Cyber-Physical-Systems, Autonomous Driving vehicles, mobility and transportation. Diagnosis and predictive maintenance of machinery, Factory automation, Smart manufacturing, Industry 4.0 and 5.0, Factory production monitoring and optimization, Industrial energy monitoring, technological packaging solutions, control system design, autonomous systems.



RESEARCH AND PUBBLICATIONS https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0265-1598 https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1997-8098

EQUIPMENT

Industrial Collaborative Robot Omron TM5, Industrial Mobile robot MIR 200 equipped with Collaborative Robot UR5, Robot gripping tool set, 1/10 scale vehicles equipped with autonomous driving systems, Autonomous e-byke, Drones and UAVs, CP-Factory real scale production line, Industrial weighing and vibratory machines, Test bench for diagnosis and testing of electric motors, Lab instrumentation as Oscilloscopes, Power supplies, Signal generators,.

Dipartimento Ingegneria Informazione

Dept. Information Engineering – DII UNIVPM





Dean: Prof. Franco Chiaraluce Department description

https://dii.univpm.it/en-gb/home/

The **Department of Information Engineering** (**DII**) was established in 2011 following the merge of the previous DIBET (Department of Biomedical, Electronics and Telecommunication engineering) and DIIGA (Department of Computer, Management and Automation engineering).

The Department is a self-managing organizational branch of the university dedicated to scientific research and teaching, and contributes to the so called Third Mission of the Higher Education Institution through the dissemination of scientific research findings amongst the community.

Its main aims are to plan, organize and regularly assess the quality of the research activities carried out in the scientific sectors and disciplines under its jurisdiction; to plan, organize and manage bachelor and master courses in Information Engineering and, last but not least, to provide cultural and educational activities and contribute to training and guidance issues according to the students' needs.



11 Scientific Areas: IINF-01/A, IINF-02/A, IINF-03/A, IINF-04/A, IINF-05/A, IBIO-01/A, IMIS-01/B, IIET-01/A, IEGE-01/A, MATH-06/A, ECON-04/A





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Project Idea: <u>ARTLearn - ADAPTATION AND REAL-TIME</u> <u>LEARNING OF MODERN ROBOTIC SYSTEMS IN "VUCA"</u> SCENARIO

Backgroud:

Adaptation and real-time learning pose crucial challenges for modern robotics, especially when robots (fixed or mobile) operate in dynamic and unstructured environments, such as volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous (VUCA) scenarios. These aspects are even more relevant in tasks involving interaction with flexible (nonrigid) objects, as the object itself can generate unpredictable situations.

The synergy between nonlinear control, learning, and hierarchical control techniques can lead to solutions that contemplate control determinism, experiential learning from the environment, and increased autonomy. Nonlinear optimal control methods can enable the use of adaptive objective functions, dependent on the state of the system with respect to the environment, and to react in a controlled manner to changing situations. Reinforcement-learning (RL) artificial intelligence (AI) techniques enable adaptation to unexpected situations, allowing optimal strategies to be learned through direct experience with the environment. In addition, the synthesis of a hierarchical controller (including bio-inspired type) would improve autonomy performance in the long run, facilitating decision-making and task allocation as general situations change, while considering safety constraints.

Project OBJECTIVES:

- - To evaluate specific objective functions for nonlinear optimal control strategies of robotic system.
- - To investigate the use of Reinforcement learning strategies in realistic simulated environment involving interaction with flexible (nonrigid) objects.
- - To evaluate and synthesize a hierarchical controller architecture for the robotic system.
- · To test the developed solution in real-world scenario involving a real robotic system

