RoboCupRescue 2015- **Robot League Team R²L_Rescue (IRAN)**

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Abstract. This paper describes our approach for the RoboCup 2015 Real Rescue League. This robot has a control preparation according to the multilayer architecture researched and designed by our team members. We have both autonomous and manual and small UAV rescue robots. The Mobility system which is designed with low center of gravity to control the robot in the massive realistic situations, and the Artificial Intelligence Mechanisms system (AIM) to identify the victims using some common sensors which are practiced and enhanced in the laboratories by experiments designed. The manual rescue robot is able to move around the orange and red area by telecommunication. We had approached the mapping problem of autonomous robot by a new Windows and Linux operating system based algorithm. The members of this team achieved some good grades separately in the Real Rescue League in previous competitions: The first place of best carrier of victim and third place of competition of 9th International Robocup IranOpen competition, 2014; The first place of 4th Khwarizmi competition and 3rd international Robotic competition of Amirkabir University, 2012; The first place of best in manipulation of 16th International Robocup competition-Mexico, 2012; The first place of best in manipulation of 7th International Robocup IranOpen competition, 2012.

Introduction

Our Robot name is "Asim" that mean an ancient Persian word meaning Great Master.

The "R2L Team" is a team consists of two graduated students of Computer & Electronic Engineering from the Islamic Azad University, And six students of Electronic, Computer and Mechanic Engineering from the Islamic Azad University of West Tehran Branch, Tehran, Iran.

Our robot's task is similar to others rescue robots which means finding victim and reporting the situation and position of them. We have two important parts: One of them is hardware and the other is software. Hardware includes mechanic and electronic, and Software includes the program for moving, detection, Localization and network communication.

The Artificial Intelligence Mechanisms (AIM) system, in the autonomous robot, contains a netbook which runs a main processing program designed and enhanced for directing the robot in the maze and finding the victims. The AIM system also contains an interface circuit as a middle part electronic board designed to connect to the sensors and getting data by a serial port and bring them to the netbook.

The whole procedure is to receive data from sensors and process them into information used for the localization algorithms and victim identification. The mapping algorithm is ran on the netbook on the robot and the 2D map of the areas is generated in it based on input data. This mapping algorithm uses some geometrical and statistical approaches. We observe information that appeared in netbook on the robot by remote desktop software at operator station system.

Drivers of the manual robot are designed by ours. We also design a good control panel for controlling robot. We have also one flexible arm on the robot for moving the battles, drugs and O2 capsules for victims in manipulation.

0- Hardware and software components

This robot is similar to other robots including two parts:
1. Hardware
2. Software

We'll explain both of them briefly:
a. Autonomous Robot

1. Hardware:
   - Platform
     Based on four wheels and two motors

   - Wheel
     Diameter: 30 cm; Thickness: 5cm; Bicycle wheels

   - Motor
     60RPM (ZGA42FM ZHENGK 12V)
     http://landaelectronic.com

   - Battery
     11.4 Volt DC, 5 Ampere; 11.1 Volt DC 0.85 Ampere (LIT-POLY)
     www.gitabattery.com

   - Camera
     We receive webcam data alive on remote desktop from two USB cameras
     http://chinatronic.com/products.php/JMK-WS-309AS/cPath,8

   - Electronic staff
     We design an interface board for Sensors data receiving and the other on is used for voltage dividing, and also driver (12V input, 80A)

   - Sensors
     – IR sensor
       ➢ Detection distance: 10cm to 80cm
         http://robot-electronics.co.uk/datasheets/gp2d12_e.pdf

     – Thermometer (TPA81)
       ➢ Temperature range: 4°C – 100 °C
       ➢ Communication: I2C interface
         http://robot-electronics.co.uk/htm/tpa81tech.htm

     – Ultrasonic (SRF02 and SRF08)
       ➢ Range: 16cm – 6m
       ➢ Communication: I2C interface
         http://robot-electronics.co.uk/htm/srf02tech.htm
         http://www.robot-electronics.co.uk/htm/srf08tech.html

     – Compass
       ➢ Resolution: 0.1degree
       ➢ Communication: I2C interface
         http://robot-electronics.co.uk/htm/cmps3tech.htm

     – Co2
       ➢ Measurement range: 1000ppm – 5000ppm
       ➢ Communication: I/O communication
         http://www.parallax.com/StoreSearchResults/ta-bid/768/ProductID/886/Default.aspx

- Accelerate meter & Gyro :

  - MPU6050

    -http://invensense.com/mems/gyro/documents/RM-MPU-6000A.pdfRouter

  -Router

    - WRT 320N-EE (IEEE 802.11n, g, b, 802.3, u, ab – Dual band, Selectable band 2.4 or 5GHz)
      http://downloads.linksysbycisco.com/down-loads/datasheet/WRT320N_V10_DS_Rev_B_web.pdf

    - Gaming Router WL-309 (Wireless simulation dual band)
      http://www.sitecom.com/gaming-router/

    - USB Wireless (DWA-160)
      http://www.dlink.com/products/?pid=DWA-160

- Laser Rang Finder
  Hokuyo URG-04LX (Detects up to 4m distance; in 240° each 0.36°)
  http://www.hokuyo-aut.jp/02sensor/07scanner/urg_04lx_ug01.html

- Microphone
  Tie-Clip Microphone

b. Manual Robot

- Platform
  Based on war machine structure

-Motor
  BMW Motor;
  Motor 55RPM;
  http://landaelectronic.com

-Battery
  12.0 Volt, 10 Ampere; 11.1 Volt DC 0.85 Ampere (LIT-POLY)
  www.gitabattery.com

-Camera
  We receive webcam data alive on network from four cameras
  http://chinatronic.com/products.php/JMK-WS-309AS/cPath,8
  Digital Video Recorder four channels

-Electronic staff
  - We design an interface board for Sensors data receiving and the other on is used for voltage dividing, and also driver (12V input, 80A)
  - Control panel for moving robot and arm

- Sensors
  – Thermometer (TPA81)
    ➢ Temperature range: 4°C – 100 °C
    ➢ Communication: I2C interface
      http://robot-electronics.co.uk/htm/tpa81tech.htm

  – Co2
    ➢ Measurement range: 1000ppm – 5000ppm
    ➢ Communication: RS232 communication
      http://edinst.com/pdf/Gascard%20NG%20Datasheet%20Rev1.pdf

- Router
    - WRT 320N-EE (IEEE 802.11n, g, b, 802.3, u, ab – Dual band, Selectable band 2.4 or 5GHz)
        http://downloads.linksysbycisco.com/down-loads/datasheet/WRT320N_V10_DS_Rev_B_web.pdf

    - Gaming Router WL-309 (Wireless simulation dual band)
        http://www.sitecom.com/gaming-router/

    - Wireless Access point WA-11500 TP-Link
        http://www.tp-link.com/en/

    - USB Wireless (DWA-160)
        http://www.dlink.com/products/?pid=DWA-160

- Microphone
    Tie-Clip Microphone

2. Software

   a. Autonomous Robot

   - Movement Robot
       It sets motors to go forward, backward, turn Right, turn Left by data from Sensors.

   - Victim detection
       It finds victim with thermometer, CO_2 detector and voice data.

   - Step field detection
       It finds steps with IR & Ultrasonic sensors.

   - Data Capturing
       It captures data from laser scanner.

   - Localization & Mapping
       It helps robot to find obstacles and generate a 2D map.

   - Decoding QR code
       It helps robot to decode QR codes

   - Remote Desktop & Network
       It uses software for accessing netbook screen on the Robot and send/receive data from Robot.

   - Light Manager
       It uses for watching the frames that is captured by cameras.

   b. Manual Robot
   - Movement Robot
       It sets the motors to go forward, backward, turn Right, turn Left, move four separated flippers and arm by receiving commands from operator system through the drivers. The operator controls the robot by Control Panel or a GUI with some keys on a keyboard.

   - Victim detection
       It would active after the operator saw the victim and sent it a command. It presents vital signs. The operator can search victims with moving the arm according to the captured video and sound.

   - Wireless Network and Radio Frequency
       It sends camera data via a DVR to operator system screen by a 5GHz wireless baud rate. Control panel uses Radio Frequency waves to connect robot for controlling it.

1. **Team Members and Their Contributions**

- **Arash Khajepour**

  Team Leader, Head of Electronic System Designers,
  Electronic System Designer,
  Wireless Infrastructure Network Administrator,
  Operator.

- **Amir Hosein Bayati**

  Manipulation Mechanical Designer Assistance.

- **Shermin Motameni**

  AIM System Programmer,
  Head of Programming, Supervisor of 2D
  Mapping algorithms Developer & Programmer,
  Operator-Side GUI Developer & Programmer,
  Navigation Algorithms Developer & Programmer,
  Voice Detection Algorithms Developer & Programmer,
  Sensors Processing Algorithms Developer & Programmer,
  Data of Laser Range Finder
  Capturing Algorithms Developer & Programmer.
  Wireless Infrastructure Network Administrator.

- **Seied Milad Mousavi Kia**

  Electronic System Designer , R&D

- **Mohammad Reza Biglari**
  Programming Assistant
- **Parisa Rezaii**
  Electronic Assistant

- Islamic Azad University-West Tehran Branch
  Sponsor

2. Operator Station Set-up and Break-Down (10 minutes)

There is a laptop in the operator-side control station, a wireless router, gaming wireless simulation for enhance wireless waves and writing tools.

Within the 10-minute-time limit, we boot up the operator station and wireless communication modules and check for the functionality of the victims' life alarms. We have a Graphical User Interface software on operator's setup which visualizes the sensors data input and the live video transmission directly from the robot's AIM system.

We need two people to carry the package and each person has to setup the parts he carries. One person will connect the laptop accessories such as wireless router and printer and the other person will prepare the writing tools and make sure the sensors work.

Since the robot is fully autonomous, we estimate that the setup procedure will take less than 7 minutes and the break down takes similar time.

Figure 1: Operator's Station

3. Communications

As it is suggested, we connect via remote desktop on the netbook of the robot for receiving data alive. It causes to reduce network traffic.

We also use a wireless LAN connection with a Standard IEEE 802.11A – 5GHz. in case we lose the remote desktop connection, so we can switch to it and gain control over the robot in critical situations.

As a replace, we use a remote switch which powers out the robot and shuts the AIM down to avoid the robot from going out of control.

Also we use wireless simulation gaming router to strengthen network.

Rescue Robot League		
R^{2}L (IRAN)		
Frequency	Channel / Band	Power (mW)
5.0 GHz - 802.11A	8	350
Short Distance Remote Switch	2	Low

Figure 2: 802.11a Wireless Router

4. Control Method and Human-Robot Interface

Since our robot is an autonomous robot, it does not need direct commands from the operator and the Artificial Intelligence Mechanisms system (AIM) works itself by gaining data from the environment and processing them and alerting the operator when finding victims. So the operator-side Graphical User Interface does not include any mobility controlling command options but just the visualizers of the sensor's data input which are processed by the AIM system from the robot.

The GUI is a Visual C# .Net Windows application which runs on the operator's laptop. It contains the different parts for sensors. The operator can see all the sensors measurements.

We have designed the robot so it can have the connection to the operator station every moment and uses the bandwidth in an enhanced way. The sensors over the robot get and send raw data to the AIM system and the system processes them into a reliable form and sends them to the station in every intervals and whenever a suspicious condition is detected.

The AIM system sends the sensors' measurements to the operator's laptop in a cycle every second. The cycle loops to the beginning and the sensors start sending information again. So it does not drive traffics to the network bandwidth and we can use the bandwidth for much more commands.

The suspicious situations are motion detection, heat and CO_2 gas increase in the environment, and human voice. Working with microphones faced us a few problems in the laboratories experiments because of low accuracy. Infrared CO_2 Gas Analyzer is a reliable sensor so we can be sure the robot has found a victim whenever it's visualized list up. The Infrared Thermometers send temperature of the environment with good resolution and can help the robot in victim identification. The surrounding Ultrasonic rangers help the robot find the path and do not let the robot get very close to the obstacles. They are also taking responsibilities of 2D map generating and giving the operator a better sense of environment.

We have also implemented an Infrared range finder on front of the robot to check for any step fields or obstacles near the robot so it can be informed and change direction to avoid colliding with them. In order to avoid the robot colliding with obstacles or victims, there has been implemented a few algorithms which causes the robot better mobility and navigation.

The map generation is fully autonomous and the operator does not need to mark the victim's place in the map. All needed is to wait for submitting the information of the victim and sending a continue command to the robot when it has found a victim. During the missions there will be no need for human operations unless some system fails.

5. Map generation/printing

The map is generally created by the AIM system and fully automatic, based on the path robot has traveled by scans of the Laser Range Finder and ultrasonic rangers and also the commands to the motor drivers and the speed of the robot. The map file will be created in robot's netbook in real-time process of the data received. The output will be ready immediately after the mission is over. According to the new rules, the operator can't correct the map by hand. The map contains the position of the victims and the obstacles for victim searches and all other marking notes which must be placed. [2]

We have presented a soft approach for building a 2D map of the earthquake environment using an autonomous rescue robot. It uses some basic geometrical and statistics approaches to gain a suitable map. The map is generated step by step by using most of the particles. After that it optimized the particles to determine real positions of obstacles.

We also use an Accelerate meter to control the situation more carefully. The resulted map is processed by using some mathematical algorithms. The sent beams by the LRF may face three situations. 1- Show the obstacles, 2- Show the environment, 3- Do not get back (such as glassy surfaces or inexistence of obstacles).

The robot creates the map by a new algorithm that is designed and developed with new method. This map generation is based on localization and robot movement on pallets and the data of the laser range finder. It can filter extra data by some geometric concepts. It uses some Boolean variables and motors variables to determine direction and navigate well. It gets help the speed of motors to masseur distance that robot traversed.

In the end it is important to mention that the generated map has to get updated in a cycle with importing new data from the environment and continue the generation the map process. [4]

In the future we will propose a new localization algorithm using this map. ***It can do vision like a human***.
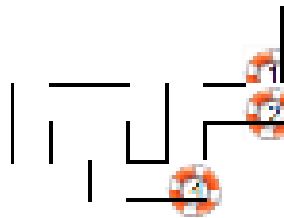

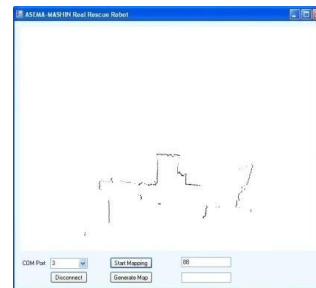Figure 3:2D map generated by our algorithm

Figure 4: New Algorithm Generation

6. Sensors for Navigation and Localization

We implemented an algorithm for localization using some useful sensors. It should detect the obstacles and find the suitable path as fast as possible.

Figure 5: GUI

6-1 – Electronic Compass

The electronic compass is a great tool used for directing the robot to the points desired and also has an important role in creating the 2D map of the area. The SLAM algorithms use the values given by the digital compass with a resolution of 0.01 degree and marks the different parts of the map in the way desired.

Figure 6: Digital Compass

6.2 - Accelerate meter

This sensor makes output as differences of linear acceleration via direction. It can compute the acceleration from 2g up to 16g. We could calculate angel differences of some important sensors like laser range finder, by this sensor.

Figure 7: Accelerate Sensor

6.3 - Ultrasonic Rangers

We have implemented three ultrasonic rangers on the robot. Two of them are on the both sides of the robot and one in front of it. There are two ways for ranging:

1 - Time Of Flight Measurement (TOF)
2 - Measurement of Phase Difference

In the first way, the ultrasonic module sends a wave and calculates the time of travelling of the wave before receiving it again. The second way is to measure the difference between phases of more than one signal from the module. However it is accurate, it has a limitation to an only one frequency of about 40 KHz and less than 8 mm of difference. The most common way of ranging in robotic is the TOF way but it has a major problem that is Crosstalk. Crosstalk is from something else for example another ultrasonic module or waves from other elements of the circuit. We can remove crosstalk by using some pseudo random sequences.

Figure 8: Ultrasonic Range Finder

6.4 – Gyro

We use Gyro for balancer laser scanner.

Figure 9: Gyro Sensor

6.5 – Laser

We use a Hokuyo URG-04LX-UG01 laser range finder which has a 240-degree scan and a 4 m distance coverage which is one of the best range finders for the robots so far. The resolution of the scanner is 0.36 degree and is good enough for the robot to gain a full control over the maze and the obstacles. It gives about 683 values of distances each scan and every 100 ms and fills an array of distances and creates a matrix which can be processed into a 2D map.
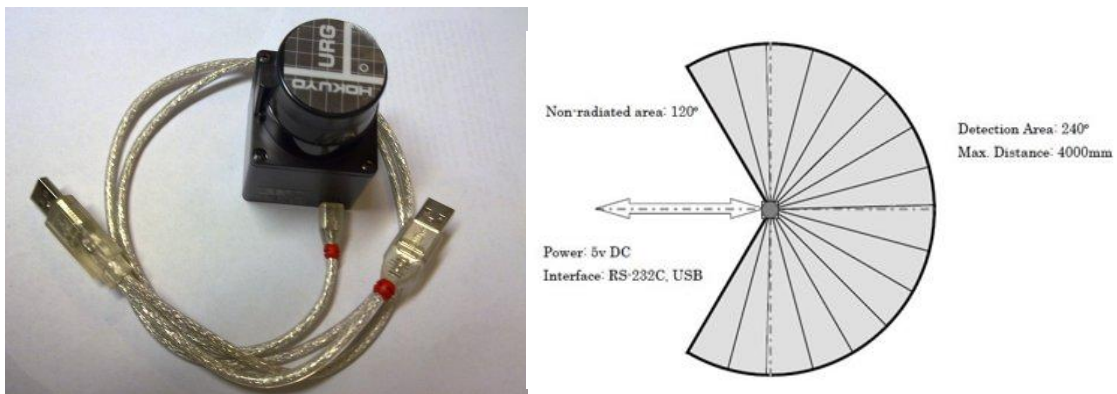
Figure 10: URG-04LX-UG01 and Coverage of the environment

Figure 11: Kinect

6.6 – Odometer

We had implemented an odometer system on the wheels and were receiving data from them but the laboratory experiments did not have exact and reliable results and the data had a low accuracy. Especially when using newspapers on the grounds and forcing wheels to turn without moving the robot. So we decided not to use the odometer system. Instead we designed a distance-meter using a time counter and the speed of the wheels so we could estimate the distance traveled by the robot from a point to another. The laser range finder also has the major role in correcting the map with high accuracy.

6.7 - Camera

It was first supposed to plug the USB camera to the AIM system on the robot and use some Image Processing Algorithms to find victims and obstacles but the plan changed due to the limitation of time. The operator can watch its movie alive. The digital cameras are used for find the **QRCODE** in the field.
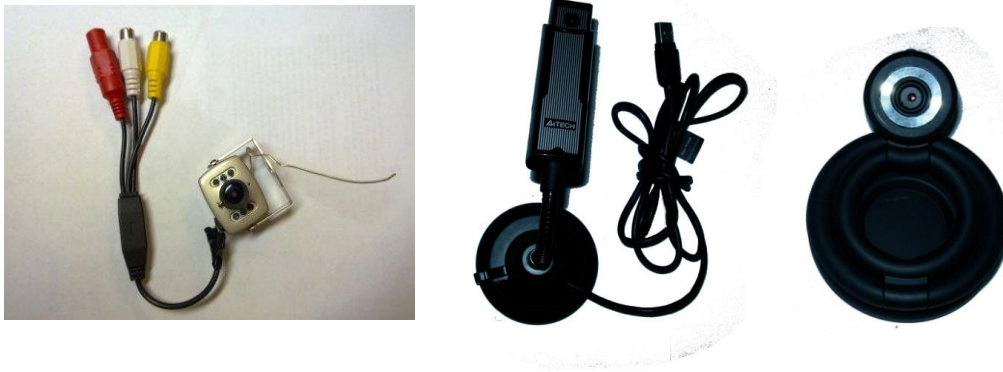

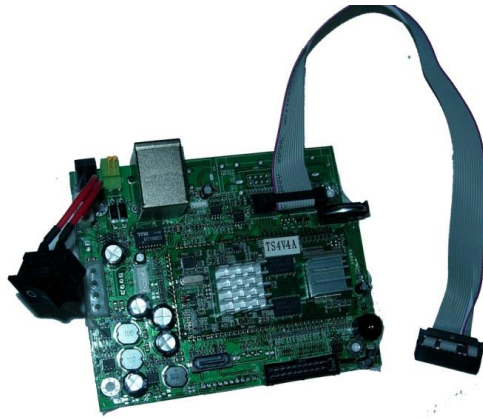*Figure 12: Cameras*

Figure 13: QRCode Detect

Figure 14: DVR

7. Sensors for Victim Identification

7-1 – Infra Red Thermal Sensors

Our main Victim Detector Sensors are IR Thermometers which are designed in the center of the AIM system and are used to detect the temperature differential between parts of the environment. Each temperature between 32 and 40 degrees is marked as a victim suspicious situation and alerts the operator and waits for his command to whether check for victims or not. Other victim identification sensors activate after the checking command to the robot.

Figure 15: IR thermal Sensor

7-2 CO2 Gas Analyzer

The Carbon Dioxide (CO_2) Gas Analyzer is a very reliable and accurate sensor which we use. We can be sure about a victim when the light on the board turns on. Also the sensor shows the amount of the gas in ppm. The amount of CO_2 produced by human during breathing is above 2000 ppm and that is the base number we use to check for the presence of a victim.

Figure 16: IR CO2 Gas Analyzer

7-3 – Victim Voice Detectors (Microphones)

The AIM system is equipped with 2 microphones in the sensors' package in front of the robot and can receive any voices in a distance so the victim's voice is cached and sent directly to the operator's station and the operator can hear the voices in the area and check for victims. We are also working on an algorithm which can process the microphone input into a value in db using the Fast Fourier Transfer. It might be available until the competition.

Figure 17: Tie Microphone

7-4 – Motion Detector

The GUI system on the robot is using a software designed an enhanced by the EASYCAP company to have a great control on the images received by the camera. These results enable the operator to check the images for any motion and alerts in the moment. The sensitivity of this feature can be tuned to the best which helps the operator to recognize any victim motion even if he is not looking at the images.

8. Robot Locomotion

Please **8-1 – Wheels(on autonomous robot)**

We are using 4 simple wheels with 30 cm diameter and enough stability on the rolls and pitches of field. They connect two by twowith chains and gearsto the Motors.

8-2 – Motors

The robot uses 2DC geared motors with the output near60 RPM which is enough and suitable for our robot. This provides the robot with a speed desired as calculated below:

60 RPM = 60 Rounds per Minute = 6 Round per 1 Seconds
Circumference of the Wheels = $\pi * 30 = 94.2$ cm

94.2cm per 1Second.This rate is too much for an autonomous robot so it reduces velocity to get better performance.
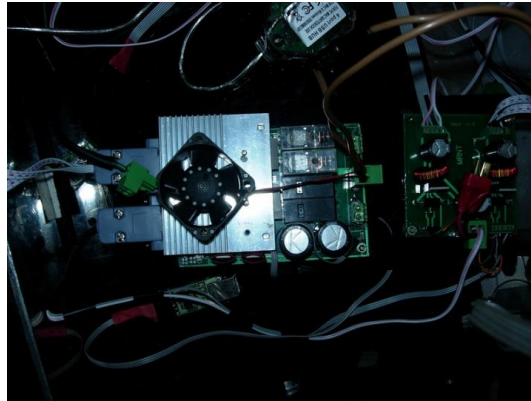

Figure 18: Driver and Dividing board

8-3 – Power Supply

The robot uses one 11.4 Volt DC lithium polymer battery with a power of 5 A. This current is enough for the interface electronic circuits, Motors Driver and Motors. The robots have another lithium polymer battery (11.1 Volt DC with 0.85A) for the cameras.

Figure 19: Lithium polymer Battery

9. Other Mechanisms

9-1 – Image Processing

We use the camera that has the ability to turn on the infrared lights in the dark positions and uses the night mode with a good coverage of about 30 cm from the lens. This image processing can help us to detection the tag of the victim.

Tricks are commonly used for light sensing and equipping the camera with a night mode, which helps the users to have a feeling from the environment without the need of light projectors and torches.

Figure 20: flexible Arm
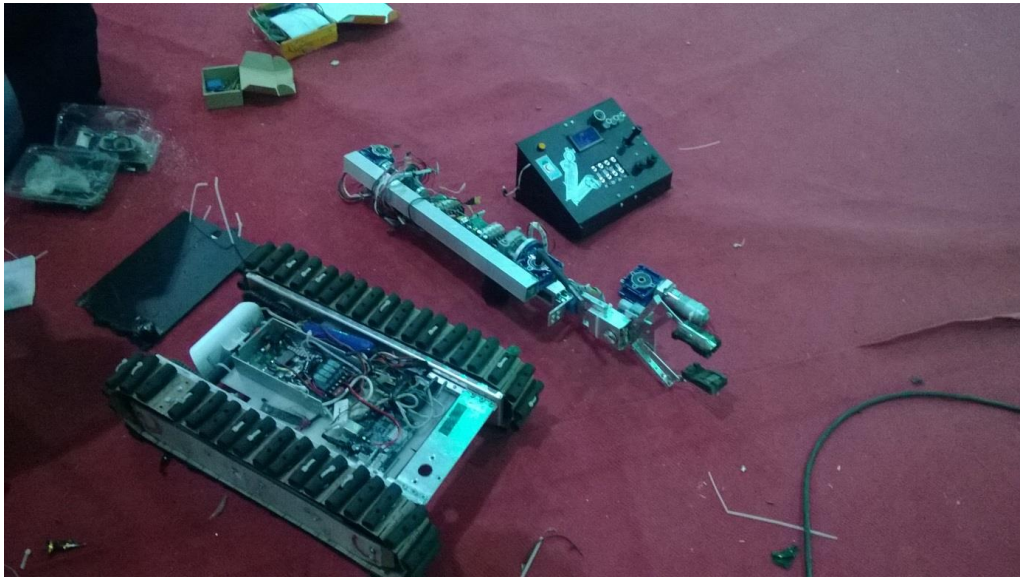

Figure 21: Final Assembled of Manual Robot

Figure22: Final Assembled of Manual Robot

Figure 23:small Uav
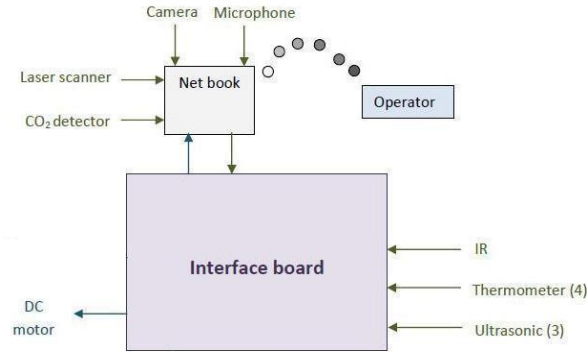
9-2- Interface Circuit

Figure 24: Structure of hardware components

For the full autonomy it is necessary to use a microcontroller or a microcomputer with an embedded processor.

There are two ways for communication between I/O devices and net book:

1. We can use a hub series;
2. We can use an interface unit;

We preferred to use an interface unit for detecting our devices because a hub series have a time-out and more processing burden. Time-out will make interrupt.

The interface board of this robot has designed by our team and it is based on some PIC microcontrollers. One of the microcontrollers connects to netbook with I2C to USB connector for transferring data. [6]

The interface board makes processing of netbook easier because it guides the netbook that what input device sends the information for it. It is a modular controlling system for monitoring the sensor data, for controlling the actuators and tasks for planning and navigation of the robot. It is used in order to receive information from sensors and devices that gathers the existence environmental information on the robot and transfer the information to the netbook.

The I/O devices connectors enter the analog information by connecting on the frame of interface board. [7][8][9][10]

10. Team Training for Operation (Human Factors)

Since the robot is fully autonomous, the required team training is to know how to turn on the robot and the different parts of the electronic systems and how to run the application on the robot's netbook. The GUI application on the laptop in the operator's station is a user friendly API and does not need any kind of practical factors to mention.

11. Possibility for Practical Application to Real Disaster Site

We were in eight competitions since 2010 and gained lots of good experiences, but our main goal is to design a real rescue robot to use for finding victims and checking damages of buildings during real earthquakes which are so common in our country, and try to improve our robot for each competition.

Figure 25: Earthquake damage

12. System Cost

Here are costs of the parts used for the robot. All prices are in the US Dollar.

Autonomous Robot:

Module	Description	Price per piece	Cost
Power Source	Battery 11.4 VDC - 5A	٧٠,٧٦	
	11.1 VDC – 10A	**400.00**	**587.42**
	11.1 VDC – 0.85 A	١٦,٦٦	
Wheel	Four wheels(30 cm diameter)	٥٤,٥٤	٢١٨,١٨
Motor	Two DC Motor	**56.6**	١١٣,٢
Ultrasonic Ranger	Five SRF02	30.٦٦	**169.8**
Laser Range Finder	URG-04LX-UG01	**1280.55**	**1280.55**
Camera	Two Webcam	**34.13**	**68.26**
Net Book	Hp Elitebook 2530p	٨٠٧,٦٩	٨٠٧,٦٩
Microphone	Two	**5.00**	**10.00**
IR Thermometer	Six IR Thermometer (TPA81)	**113.45**	**680.70**
DC Motor Driver	MDV02	**150.00**	**150.00**
Electronic Compass	One (CMP S03)	**54.21**	**54.21**
Remote Switch	One	**11.10**	**11.10**
Gaming Router	Sitecom wl-309	١٥٣,٨٤	١٥٣,٨٤
IR Range Finder	One (GP2D12)	**22.33**	**22.33**
Mechanical staff	Aluminum and Plexiglas parts	~٦٠٠.00	٦٠٠.00
Electronic staff	Interface Circuit	~ 200.00	**200.00**
		Total	**5127.28 $**

Manual Robot

Module	Description	Price per piece	Cost
Power Source	Battery 11.1 VDC – 10A 11.1 VDC – 5A 11.1 VDC – 0.85 A	400.00 ١٧٠,٧٦ ١٦,٦٦	٨٧,٤٢
Wheel& Gears	Six wheels Six Meter gears	40.00 30.00	420.00
Motor	Two BMW Motors Tow DC Motors Seven small DC Motors	300.00 100.00 50.00	1150.00
Camera	Four Camera (JMK) Two Webcam DVR	34.13 36.12 160.20	368.96
Net Book	Msi 370	307.00	307.00
IR Thermometer	Four IR Thermometer (TPA81)	113.45	453.80
Microphone	Two	5.00	10.00
DC Motor Driver	MDV02 MDV04	150.00 200.00	350.00
Remote Switch	One	11.10	11.10
Mechanical staff	Aluminum and Plexiglas parts	~2٠00.00	2٠00.00
Electronic staff	Interface Circuit	~ 400.00	400.00
		Total	**5558.28 $**

13. Learned

In the first time we made the robot with two wheels but in last competitions it could not move in the inclined plan land well, so we changed the mechanic to be faster and to be able move better. Also the Network had high traffic while it transferred information on wireless broadcast so we try to use Remote Desktop for being WLAN better. Two last competitions helped us to make the robot better and we make new manual robot with the special mechanic design. We hope that it will move so well in the future.
Also now we could generate new algorithm for mapping. The result can also improve our localization.

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