

“Deviation control using BIM and Robotics on construction sites”

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Topic

Rapid advancements in robotics, computer vision, BIM technology, and generative planning enable new opportunities for **autonomous on-site monitoring and digital assistance**. A future construction-site robot could traverse uneven terrain, track activity progress, assess built quality, gather workers' feedback, and assist in the problem-solving process. Rather than executing construction work, such robots could act as **autonomous data gatherers** that maintain a continuously updated understanding of the site. However, substantial technical challenges remain, from spatial location and visual recognition to BIM integration and real-time decision-making.

The project study focuses on the following question: **“How can a humanoid robot bridge reality and information systems to effectively gather data and assist on a construction site?”**

Thereby, among others, the following questions are crucial:

- What baseline reference data and real-time sensory inputs are required for a robot to reliably perceive, understand, and navigate a dynamic 3D environment such as a construction site?
- How can static reference models and on-site observations be fused into a coherent spatial understanding?
- How can a robot autonomously derive actionable on-site inspection tasks by integrating construction schedules and task-management systems and integrate them with a BIM model to know where to go and localize itself with sufficient precision to execute them?
- How can it, based on said self-determined inspections, determine what needs to be checked and which expected reference states it should verify?
- What sensing strategies, data-collection routines, and autonomous behaviors must a humanoid robot employ to capture the information required to locate itself on the construction site and for reliable progress, quality, and safety assessments?
- What infrastructure, computing architectures, and connectivity frameworks are necessary to support real-time perception, navigation, and data processing for such a robotic system?
- What technical risks, limitations, and integration challenges arise in the development and deployment of humanoid robots for autonomous monitoring and management on construction sites?

Deliverables:

- A comprehensive report including:
 - State-of-the-art overview of humanoid robotics for autonomous site monitoring.
 - Analysis of required reference data, on-site sensory inputs, and methods to fuse BIM, schedules, and task systems into actionable robot tasks.
 - Framework for translating BIM elements, construction schedules, and task lists into daily inspection targets and expected reference states.
 - Concept for autonomous navigation, localization, and data-capture strategies in dynamic environments.
 - Proposal of system architecture: perception, planning, data synchronization, and digital twin alignment.
 - Evaluation of technical feasibility, integration challenges, and associated risks.
 - The way forward!!

Requirements:

- Analytical, engineering-oriented working style.
- Study focus on Robotics, Mechanical Engineering, Computer Science, AI, Mechatronics, or similar.
- Experience with robotics concepts, BIM, ML/AI models, or simulation tools (ROS, Gazebo, PyTorch, etc.) is an asset.

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