

# Saurabh H. Mirani

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## Technical Skills

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- **Languages:** C++17, C++14, C++11, C, Python
- **C++ libraries:** Eigen, Boost, Taskflow, Fast DDS, nlohmann-json, GoogleTest, TinyXML-2, GRAMPC, TOPP-RA, MoveIt!, OpenCV, PCL, LibTorch, Bullet, FCL, OMPL, OctoMap
- **Python libraries:** NumPy, SciPy, Pandas, OpenCV, scikit-learn, matplotlib, SymPy, PyTorch, Gym, CasADi, OSQP, PyBullet, OpenCV
- **Software:** ROS, ROS2, Gazebo, MATLAB/Simulink, SolidWorks, EagleCad, RoboDK, AirSim, ArduPilot SITL
- **Platforms:** Linux, Windows, QNX RTOS

## Work Experience

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**Robotics Software Engineer** - Flexiv Robotics, Santa Clara, U.S.A. Sep 2021 - Present

- Designed and implemented a variant of Dynamic Roadmaps, for real time motion planning under uncertainty, of a dual arm setup with 100% success rate for the given voxel resolution, and  $O(n)$  time complexity for collision detection
- Implemented a real time path-following model predictive controller (MPC) using GRAMPC, CasADi, OSQP for continuous re-planning with Dynamic Roadmaps, which computes trajectory in less than 200us, thereby improving the computation time by 80%
- Single-handedly developed and released a motion planning app consisting of optimization based motion planning algorithms like TrajOpt using OSQP, IFOPT, sampling based algorithms like RRT, RRT\*, Descartes, and continuous collision detection algorithm using Bullet Physics thereby reducing the deployment time from weeks to hours
- Utilized multi-threading techniques to parallelize the execution of multiple RRT threads, enabling the robotic system to explore multiple paths simultaneously and find optimal trajectories
- Demonstrated expertise in motion planning algorithm design using C++ and mathematical modeling, with a proven track record of delivering optimized solutions
- Established communication using Fast-DDS zero copy between robot control app, motion planning app and ROS
- Developed a deep understanding of CI/CD methodologies, including experience with tools such as Jenkins, Bitbucket CI/CD, and Docker containerization technology, to facilitate the development of efficient and robust software pipelines for the motion planning app
- Utilized Agile Scrum techniques to prioritize development tasks and maintain high levels of software quality

**Motion Planning Intern** - Mathworks, Hyderabad, India May 2018 - July 2018

- Developed MATLAB module for path planning of autonomous robotic arm of high-DOF like KUKAs LBR iiwa
- Executed obstacle avoidance using GilbertJohnsonKeerthi (GJK) distance algorithm in parallel to RRT-star

**Robotics Intern** - Systemantics, Bengaluru, India Dec 2017 - Jan 2018

- Improved the trajectory computation time for a pick and place operation of a 6 DOF robotic manipulator by 50%
- Designed a gripper for a teach-and-repeat type application of the robot as per client requirement

## Education

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- **University of California, San Diego** (Currently on F-1 STEM OPT) **GPA 3.84/4.0**  
M.S. in Intelligent Systems, Robotics and Control 2019-2021  
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
- **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur** **CGPA 9.36/10.0**  
B.Tech. (Hons), Department of Mechanical Engineering 2015-2019

## Research Experience

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### Motion Planning Networks (MPNet) using Fastron

San Diego, U.S.A.

Guide: Prof. Michael Yip

June 2020–April 2021

- Combined a learning-based neural planner with a differentiable learning-based proxy collision detection algorithm
- Used LibTorch (PyTorch in C++) for optimization with joint limit, collision score and path length as objectives
- Reduced the computation time by 50% and improved the success rate from 85% to 99%

### Semantic SLAM

San Diego, U.S.A.

Guide: Prof. Henrik Christensen

Sep 2020–Dec 2020

- Used YOLOv3 for object detection and semantic labelling and PoseCNN for pose estimation of the detected object
- Designed and implemented a novel approach to map creation that combined geometric and semantic information using particle filter algorithms, resulting in highly accurate and semantically meaningful maps

### Motion planning of autonomous UAVs

Kharagpur, India

Guide: Prof. Cheruvu Siva Kumar

July 2018–April 2019

- Designed and implemented a novel multi-objective optimized path for UAV using Open Motion Planning Library (OMPL) and Flexible Collision Library (FCL), resulting in significant improvements in UAV path planning efficiency
- Developed autonomous 3D occupancy (Octomap) and collision avoidance and tested on Ardupilot SITL Gazebo
- Used stereoscopic camera instead of lidar reducing the cost by 90%, where point cloud was created using OpenCV

### RoboSoccer

Kharagpur, India

Guide: Prof. Jayanta Mukhopadhyay

Feb 2016–April 2018

- Built a team of autonomous soccer playing robots in Python & C++ and participated in 21st RoboCup, Japan (2017)
- Performed a comparative study on the variations of RRT, worked on path simplifier and velocity profiling of the path
- Developed a multi-threaded 3-tier Skills-Tactics-Plays architecture for controlling omni-directional robots using ROS

### Autonomous stair-climbing Robot

Kharagpur, India

Self-initiated project

Nov 2016–April 2017

- Developed computer vision based target following for navigation using Kanade-Lucas tracking of Shi Tomasi corners
- Applied EEG signal based control, voice control using CMUSphinx along with a touch interface using Raspberry Pi
- Recipient of the Gold medal in the intra-collegiate hardware exhibition 2017 at IIT Kharagpur.

## Relevant Courses

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### University of California San Diego

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|------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Planning & Learning in Robotics  | • Statistical Learning  | • Linear Algebra           |
| • Sensing & Estimation in Robotics | • Bio-inspired robotics | • Introduction to Robotics |
| • Random Processes                 | • Nonlinear Systems     | • ML: Learning Algorithms  |