email: davis@cs.umn.edu

Research Interest My research interests lie primarily in robotics. I'm particularly interested in motion planning under uncertainty, especially in complex, partially unknown environments.

Education University of Minnesota 2013 - Present

Ph.D. Student

Advisor: Stephen J. Guy

GPA: 3.88

Carleton College

2009 - 2013

Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science Major GPA: 3.81 (Total GPA: 3.52)

Graduated with Distinction

Work Experience University of Minnesota

Teaching Assistant

Minneapolis, MN

2013 - Present

TA for Algorithms and Data Structures (four semesters) and Discrete Math (one semester).

Epic Systems Corporation

Software Development Intern

Verona, WI

June 2012 – August 2012

Designed and implemented a mobile app endpoint for waitlisted appointments.

Created a location based search engine.

Utah State University

REU Participant

Logan, UT

June 2011 – August 2011

Designed and developed a content-based image retrieval system.

Thomson Reuters

Technology Intern

Eagan, MN

Summer 2009 & 2010

Developed server endpoint tests. Created a performance testing suite.

Publications

Coverage Aware Trajectory Optimization

Introduced the problem of continuous, coverage-aware trajectory optimization under localization and sensing uncertainty and developed an algorithm to find locally optimal coverage paths.

Bobby Davis, Ioannis Karamouzas, and Stephen J. Guy. Under Submission to RA-L/ICRA

Data-Driven Story Domain Inference for Computer Narrative Generation

Proposed a data-driven narrative generation method that employs a Bayesian inference approach to learn high-level story domains from collections of existing stories.

Bilal Kartal, Bobby Davis, and Stephen J. Guy. Under Submission

Content-Based Image Retrieval

Designed a system which, given an input image, returns images from a database that are semantically similar to the input image.

Robert Davis, Zhongmiao Xiao, and Xiaojun Qi, "Capturing Semantic Relationship Among Images in Clusters for Efficient Content-Based Image Retrieval" IEEE Int. Conf. on Image Processing (ICIP'12), pp. 1953-1956, Sept. 30-Oct. 3, Orlando, Florida, 2012.

Projects

Spring 2014

Designed and developed a 2D SLAM algorithm on a differential drive robot equipped with a 2D laser scanner, in a small group.

Baxter Cube Stacking

Developed and implemented a cube stacking algorithm on a Rethink Robotics Baxter robot, using OpenCV and ROS as part of a small group.

Neural Network Weather Prediction

Winter 2012 - 2013

Designed and implemented a short term weather prediction algorithm, utilizing the NOAA

weather archive and neural networks, with a small group.

Qualifications Programming Languages: C++, Python, Java, C#

Libraries and Tools: ROS, OpenCV, OpenGL, GCC, GDB, MATLAB, Linux

Activities Peer Review Service Fall 2013 – Present

IEEE T-ASE, AAAI, IEEE/RSJ IROS

Carleton Game Development Club Fall 2011 – Spring 2013

Worked in a small team to create one game per semester.

Vice president Fall 2012 – Spring 2013.