Autonomous Vehicles - Planning, Control, and Learning Systems

Programme course

6 credits

Autonoma farkoster - planering, reglering och lärande system

TSFS12

Valid from: 2019 Spring semester

Determined by
Board of Studies for Electrical
Engineering, Physics and Mathematics

Date determined
2018-08-31

Main field of study

Computer Science and Engineering, Electrical Engineering

Course level

Second cycle

Advancement level

A1X

Course offered for

- Computer Science and Engineering, M Sc in Engineering
- Information Technology, M Sc in Engineering
- Applied Physics and Electrical Engineering, M Sc in Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering, M Sc in Engineering
- Applied Physics and Electrical Engineering - International, M Sc in Engineering
- Computer Science and Software Engineering, M Sc in Engineering
- Industrial Engineering and Management, M Sc in Engineering
- Industrial Engineering and Management - International, M Sc in Engineering

Entry requirements

Note: Admission requirements for non-programme students usually also include admission requirements for the programme and threshold requirements for progression within the programme, or corresponding.

Prerequisites

Automatic control, introductory courses in mechanics and programming

Intended learning outcomes

To give a theoretical, technological, and practical foundation for how planning and control for autonomous vehicles can be realized in complex scenarios. The overall aim is an understanding of how methods from different fields can be integrated and applied in autonomous vehicles.

After passing the course, the student should be able to:

- explain and identify possibilities and challenges with autonomous vehicles in the society.
- describe, use, and evaluate common system architectures for autonomous vehicles.
- choose necessary sensor equipment and explain how different components are used as well as explain how these are interacting within planning, control, simultaneous localization and mapping, perception, and other central parts of an autonomous vehicle.
- describe and compare modern algorithms for motion planning and control of vehicles with kinematic and dynamic motion constraints, and in addition motivate the choice of method in a specific scenario.
- describe and suggest strategies for how robustness in the systems can be achieved by using feedback control and in addition apply optimal control and model predictive control in autonomous vehicles.
- explain and evaluate the interaction between motion planning and control of an autonomous vehicle.
- identify how learning can be used for an autonomous vehicle.
- implement low-complexity controllers and planners for systems of cooperating autonomous vehicles.
- implement functions on existing hardware platforms using available software libraries to solve common problems for autonomous vehicles in laboratory environment.
- describe parts of the latest research within the field and in addition read and comprehend new methods presented in scientific literature.

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Course content

- Introduction to autonomous systems and vehicles; identification of possibilities and challenges.
- Common system architectures in autonomous decision making, machine learning, planning, and control.
- Dynamic models for planning and control of autonomous vehicles.
- Fundamental planning algorithms in graphs and trees for motion of simple robots.
- Advanced algorithms for motion planning for non-holonomic vehicles described by dynamic motion equations with differential constraints.
- Introduction to and use of methods for simultaneous localization and mapping for autonomous vehicles.
- Control of autonomous vehicles; path following, model predictive control (MPC), and control of path velocity.
- Learning systems within autonomous vehicles: reinforcement learning, machine learning using deep neural networks, and Markov decision processes (MDP).
- Cooperating autonomous vehicles, including ground vehicles and flying vehicles, and the required communication.

Teaching and working methods

The course is organized in lectures, problem solving sessions, hand-ins and a concluding project.

Examination

UPG2	Hand in exercise for higher grade	0 credits	U, 3, 4, 5
PROJ	Project	2 credits	U, G
UPG1	Hand in exercises	4 credits	U, 3, 4, 5

To pass the course with grade 3, the student is required to:

- Complete the five compulsory hand-in exercises and present them in either oral or written format (examination form varies between exercises).
- Complete a final project, typically involving experiments on a hardware platform, and present it by an oral presentation and in a short written report.

To obtain grade 4 or 5, the student is in addition to the examination tasks for grade 3 required to:

- Complete additional smaller hand-in exercises, widening the scope of selected parts of the course or going deeper into selected theoretical aspects of the course.

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Grades

Four-grade scale, LiU, U, 3, 4, 5

Department

Institutionen för systemteknik

Director of Studies or equivalent

Johan Löfberg

Examiner

Erik Frisk

Course website and other links

http://www.fs.isy.liu.se/Edu/Courses/TSFS12

Education components

Preliminary scheduled hours: 40 h
Recommended self-study hours: 120 h

Course literature

Books

LaValle, S. M., (2006) *Planning Algorithms,* Cambridge University Press.
Sutton, R. S., and Barto, A. G, (2018) *Reinforcement Learning: An Introduction,*
2nd Ed. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Articles

Paden, B., Cap, M., Yong, S. Z., Yershov, D., and Frazzoli, E., A survey of motion
planning and control techniques for self-driving urban vehicles, *IEEE Trans.*
Intell. Vehicles 1:1 (2016) 33–55.

Other

The course literature will be based on book chapters, recent scientific articles from
journals and conferences in the field, and course manuscripts. The following
books and articles will be a subset of the literature that will be used. A complete
literature list will be provided on the course homepage.

Common rules

Course syllabus

A syllabus has been established for each course. The syllabus specifies the aim and contents of the course, and the prior knowledge that a student must have in order to be able to benefit from the course.

Timetabling

Courses are timetabled after a decision has been made for this course concerning its assignment to a timetable module. A central timetable is not drawn up for courses with fewer than five participants. Most project courses do not have a central timetable.

Interrupting a course

The vice-chancellor's decision concerning regulations for registration, deregistration and reporting results (Dnr LiU-2015-01241) states that interruptions in study are to be recorded in Ladok. Thus, all students who do not participate in a course for which they have registered must record the interruption, such that the registration on the course can be removed. Deregistration from a course is carried out using a web-based form: www.lith.liu.se/for-studenter/kurskomplettering?l=sv.

Cancelled courses

Courses with few participants (fewer than 10) may be cancelled or organised in a manner that differs from that stated in the course syllabus. The board of studies is to deliberate and decide whether a course is to be cancelled or changed from the course syllabus.

Regulations relating to examinations and examiners

Details are given in a decision in the university's rule book: http://styrdokument.liu.se/Regelsamling/VisaBeslut/622678.

Forms of examination

Examination

Written and oral examinations are held at least three times a year: once immediately after the end of the course, once in August, and once (usually) in one of the re-examination periods. Examinations held at other times are to follow a decision of the board of studies.

Principles for examination scheduling for courses that follow the study periods:

- courses given in VT1 are examined for the first time in March, with re-

examination in June and August
- courses given in VT2 are examined for the first time in May, with re-examination in August and October
- courses given in HT1 are examined for the first time in October, with re-examination in January and August
- courses given in HT2 are examined for the first time in January, with re-examination at Easter and in August.

The examination schedule is based on the structure of timetable modules, but there may be deviations from this, mainly in the case of courses that are studied and examined for several programmes and in lower grades (i.e. 1 and 2).

- Examinations for courses that the board of studies has decided are to be held in alternate years are held only three times during the year in which the course is given.
- Examinations for courses that are cancelled or rescheduled such that they are not given in one or several years are held three times during the year that immediately follows the course, with examination scheduling that corresponds to the scheduling that was in force before the course was cancelled or rescheduled.
- If teaching is no longer given for a course, three examination occurrences are held during the immediately subsequent year, while examinations are at the same time held for any replacement course that is given, or alternatively in association with other re-examination opportunities. Furthermore, an examination is held on one further occasion during the next subsequent year, unless the board of studies determines otherwise.
- If a course is given during several periods of the year (for programmes, or on different occasions for different programmes) the board or boards of studies determine together the scheduling and frequency of re-examination occasions.

Registration for examination

In order to take an examination, a student must register in advance at the Student Portal during the registration period, which opens 30 days before the date of the examination and closes 10 days before it. Candidates are informed of the location of the examination by email, four days in advance. Students who have not registered for an examination run the risk of being refused admittance to the examination, if space is not available.

Symbols used in the examination registration system:

** denotes that the examination is being given for the penultimate time.

* denotes that the examination is being given for the last time.

Code of conduct for students during examinations

Details are given in a decision in the university's rule book:
http://styrdokument.liu.se/Regelsamling/VisaBeslut/622682.

Retakes for higher grade

Students at the Institute of Technology at LiU have the right to retake written examinations and computer-based examinations in an attempt to achieve a higher grade. This is valid for all examination components with code "TEN" and "DAT". The same right may not be exercised for other examination components, unless otherwise specified in the course syllabus.

Retakes of other forms of examination

Regulations concerning retakes of other forms of examination than written examinations and computer-based examinations are given in the LiU regulations for examinations and examiners, http://styrdokument.liu.se/Regelsamling/VisaBeslut/622678.

Plagiarism

For examinations that involve the writing of reports, in cases in which it can be assumed that the student has had access to other sources (such as during project work, writing essays, etc.), the material submitted must be prepared in accordance with principles for acceptable practice when referring to sources (references or quotations for which the source is specified) when the text, images, ideas, data, etc. of other people are used. It is also to be made clear whether the author has reused his or her own text, images, ideas, data, etc. from previous examinations.

A failure to specify such sources may be regarded as attempted deception during examination.

Attempts to cheat

In the event of a suspected attempt by a student to cheat during an examination, or when study performance is to be assessed as specified in Chapter 10 of the Higher Education Ordinance, the examiner is to report this to the disciplinary board of the university. Possible consequences for the student are suspension from study and a formal warning. More information is available at https://www.student.liu.se/studenttjanster/lagar-regler-rattigheter?l=sv.

Grades

The grades that are preferably to be used are Fail (U), Pass (3), Pass not without distinction (4) and Pass with distinction (5). Courses under the auspices of the faculty board of the Faculty of Science and Engineering (Institute of Technology) are to be given special attention in this regard.

1. Grades U, 3, 4, 5 are to be awarded for courses that have written examinations.
2. Grades Fail (U) and Pass (G) may be awarded for courses with a large degree of practical components such as laboratory work, project work and group work.

Examination components

1. Grades U, 3, 4, 5 are to be awarded for written examinations (TEN).
2. Grades Fail (U) and Pass (G) are to be used for undergraduate projects and other independent work.

3. Examination components for which the grades Fail (U) and Pass (G) may be awarded are laboratory work (LAB), project work (PRA), preparatory written examination (KTR), oral examination (MUN), computer-based examination (DAT), home assignment (HEM), and assignment (UPG).
4. Students receive grades either Fail (U) or Pass (G) for other examination components in which the examination criteria are satisfied principally through active attendance such as other examination (ANN), tutorial group (BAS) or examination item (MOM).

The examination results for a student are reported at the relevant department.

Regulations (apply to LiU in its entirety)

The university is a government agency whose operations are regulated by legislation and ordinances, which include the Higher Education Act and the Higher Education Ordinance. In addition to legislation and ordinances, operations are subject to several policy documents. The Linköping University rule book collects currently valid decisions of a regulatory nature taken by the university board, the vice-chancellor and faculty/department boards.

LiU's rule book for education at first-cycle and second-cycle levels is available at http://styrdokument.liu.se/Regelsamling/Innehall/Utbildning_pa_grund-_och_avancerad_niva.