

Acumen: International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research ISSN: 3060-4745 IF(Impact Factor)10.41 / 2024 Volume 2, Issue 3 A SMALL-SIZED MOBILE ROBOT DEVELOPMENT

# Kateryna Nimets<sup>1</sup>, Amer Abu-Jassar<sup>2</sup>, Svitlana Maksymova<sup>1</sup>, Vladyslav Yevsieiev<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Computer-Integrated Technologies, Automation and Robotics, Kharkiv National University of Radio Electronics, Ukraine
<sup>2</sup>Department of Computer Science, College of Information Technology, Amman Arab University, Amman, Jordan

#### Abstract

The article considers an example of assembling a small-sized mobile robot. The main principles that distinguish a robot from other intelligent devices are considered. The types of parts that must be in each such robot are also given. The main stages of assembling a mobile robot are presented with photographs.

Keywords: Mobile Robot, Small-Sized Mobile Robot, Wheel, ESP32-Cam, Assembly.

### Introduction

In the modern world, the principles of the Industry 4.0 concept have become widespread [1]-[12]. The main one of its provisions is the widespread use of robots [13]-[25]. Based on today's realities, the development of small-sized mobile robots is becoming extremely relevant. Modern small-sized mobile robots are one of the most promising branches of robotics. They are used in various areas: from everyday life to scientific research, and their popularity is due to compactness, high maneuverability and accessibility of technologies. These robots are characterized by the use of various technical means and materials that ensure their functionality. Such robots, in addition to conventional use, find their purpose for military purposes. These include the analysis and study of rubble, especially in buildings made of reinforced concrete structures and panels. Small-sized robots can also be used for mining and demining territories. And here various methods and algorithms can be used, both for justifying such robots and for making decisions during their work [26]-[42].





It should be noted that one of the main conditions is the low cost of such a robot and the possibility of remote control. In this case, preference is given to the use of Wi-Fi technology, rather than Bluetooth, due to its greater range.

#### **Related works**

Many modern scientists are developing small-sized robots. Research is conducted in various directions: from creating a design to developing various control systems. Let's consider several recent scientific works on this topic.

The scientists in [43] developed a a small-sized quadruped robotic rat (SQuRo), which includes four limbs and one flexible spine. The results obtained through a series of experimental tests reveal that SQuRo achieves a superior motion performance compared with existing state-of-the-art small-sized quadruped robots.

The paper [44] focuses on the features of transport (locomotion) systems of mobile mini-robots (MMR), i.e., small unmanned ground vehicles of a portable type measuring several tens of centimeters and weighing no more than 15 kg.

Quan, X., and co-authors in [45] also consider a SQuRo. They note that smallscale quadruped robots have limited payloads and thus cannot carry sufficient sensing and computational resources, which imposes limitations on their environmental adaptability. They proposed an efficient closed-loop adaptive controller by simplified pose estimation and control strategy that utilizes only inertial measurement unit sensors, which drastically reduces the control computation.

The study [46] focuses on computer vision system for a small-sized mobile humanoid robot development. The decentralization of the servomotor control and the computer vision systems is investigated based on the hardware solution point of view, moreover, the required software level to achieve an efficient matched design is obtained.

Gao, J., & et al. in [47] ntegrated the inertial measurement unit into the smallsized robotic rat SQuRo, and proposed simplified control strategies to enhance its robustness in order to ensure high environmental adaptability and promising applications.

Researchers in [48] use a low-cost small-scale mobile robot for monitoring temperature. It is equipped with a thermal scanning platform. They claim that robotics system has the potential to revolutionize thermal monitoring of buildings and enable energy characterization through thermal models.





So we see a wide variety of research in the field of the development and use of small-scaled robots in various fields. Further in this article we will look at the assembly of such a robot.

#### A small-sized mobile robot assembling

Modern robots are equipped with complex sensory systems that allow them to analyze the environment, make independent decisions and adapt to changing conditions. Thanks to the use of machine learning algorithms and artificial intelligence, robots are able to build behavioral models that ensure the performance of even nonstandard tasks.

The main characteristics that distinguish robots from other intelligent devices:

1. SENSE. The robot is able to obtain data about the environment through sensors such as microphones, cameras, infrared, electromagnetic or electromechanical sensors.

2. THINK. The robot analyzes the collected information, models the environment and makes decisions to achieve the set goal. This is possible thanks to algorithms that allow you to assess the situation and adjust actions in real time..

3. ACT. A robot influences the external environment using actuators such as manipulators, actuators, or mobile platforms.

Wheeled robots are a type of robot that uses wheels for movement. They are characterized by high maneuverability, speed of movement and simplicity of design. The main components of a wheeled robot:

- Housing. Serves as the basis for all other components. It is made of various materials (plastic, metal) and can have a variety of shapes.

– Wheels. Ensure the movement of the robot. Can be of different diameters, have different tread patterns and be made of different materials.

- Motors. Convert electrical energy into mechanical energy, setting the wheels in motion.

– Microcontroller. A component of the robot that controls all its functions.

- Sensors. Allow the robot to navigate in space, avoid obstacles, and determine the distance to objects. The most common sensors are ultrasonic, infrared, laser, lidar.

- Batteries. Ensure the operation of the robot's electronics.

– Drivers. Control the operation of the motors.

Wheeled robots equipped with cameras are extremely popular due to their effectiveness in performing tasks related to computer vision, autonomous navigation, and interaction with the environment. Such robots are used in scientific research, education, logistics, everyday life, and other fields.



To implement a small-sized mobile robot, it is important to consider in detail the hardware components used and the process of their assembly. This section presents the key elements of the robot design, as well as step-by-step instructions for its creation, which will ensure the reliability and functionality of the device.

Elegoo Robot Car Kit is a universal kit for assembling a mobile robot, containing the main hardware components that ensure its functionality.

The basis of the robot are two acrylic plates, marked "A" and "B" - Top Plate (top plate) and Bottom Plate (bottom plate), respectively. It is quite easy to distinguish them - the top plate A has an additional hole for the SG90 servo.

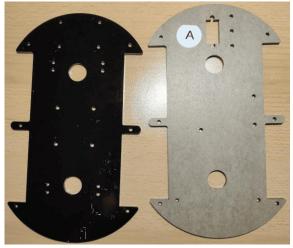


Figure 1: Acrylic robot plates

After removing the protective film, it is necessary to assemble the four motors and install them on the bottom plate (Fig. 2).







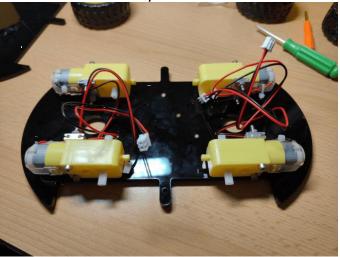


Figure 2: Installing motors on the plate

Next, you need to install the line following module on the bottom plate. The sensor consists of three infrared sensors (Fig. 3), which allow the robot to follow a black line on a light background, providing the line tracking function.

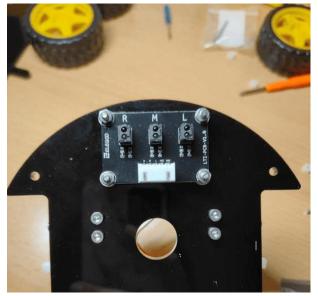


Figure 3: Line following module

We install the GY-521 module on the expansion board. The GY-521 is an accelerometer and gyroscope module based on the MPU-6050, which allows you to measure acceleration and angular velocity, providing data on the inclination and movement of the robot. The OI expansion board (V5.0 Expansion Board) is used to





conveniently connect various modules and sensors to the UNO R3 board, simplifying the assembly process and preventing errors during connection.

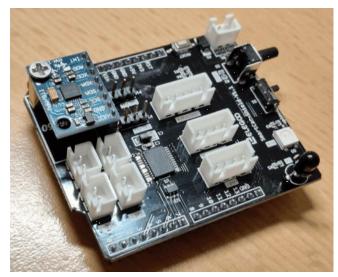


Figure 4: GY-521 module and expansion board

We install the UNO R3 board (Fig. 5) on the top plate and connect the expansion board with the GY-521 module to it (Fig. 6). UNO R3 is an ATmega328P-based microcontroller board compatible with Arduino. It provides control of all robot modules and is programmed via the Arduino IDE.







Figure 5: UNO R3 board installed

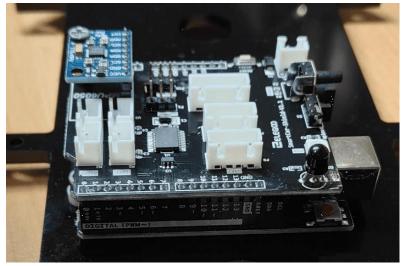


Figure 6: Connecting modules to the board

To create a computer vision system and for the robot to perceive information from the outside, it is necessary to install the following modules on a fixed platform: the ESP-32 Cam camera module, the ultrasonic sensor module and the Servo SG90 microservo.

ESP32-CAM is a module with an OV2640 camera, built on the basis of the ESP32 microcontroller. It has Wi-Fi and Bluetooth capabilities, which makes it the right choice for video surveillance, face recognition and IoT projects.

HC-SR04 is an ultrasonic distance sensor used to detect obstacles in the path of the robot. It measures the distance to objects and helps to avoid collisions.

The SG90 microservo is used to rotate the ultrasonic sensor, providing the robot with the ability to scan the space in front of it and detect obstacles at different angles.

After assembly, we install the elements on the top plate, having previously attached to it a battery compartment with a lithium battery, which provides power and operation of the robot for approximately 2 hours in line tracking mode.



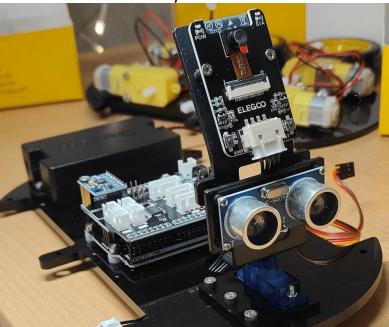


Figure 7: Modules installed on the top plate

Next, we assemble the entire robot body, connect the motors and all elements to the UNO R3 board, and attach the wheels to the motors.



Figure 8: Connecting modules to the UNO R3 board





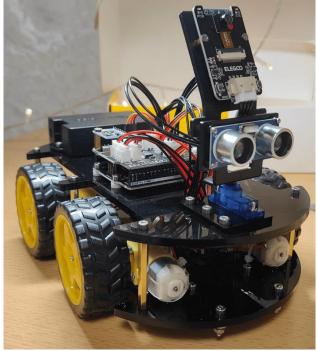


Figure 9: General view of a small mobile robot

#### Conclusion

In accordance with the principles of the Industry 4.0 concept, robots are increasingly penetrating all spheres of human life. It should be noted that for different areas of application, different criteria for selecting both hardware and software for robots are used. In particular, small-sized mobile robots are used in active combat situations. They can be used both for examining rubble, including searching for victims, fires, etc., and for mining/demining and similar tasks. It should be taken into account that one of the key requirements for such robots is low cost.

A selection of hardware components was made to create a robot prototype, in particular, the use of an ESP32-CAM camera and an Elegoo Uno R3 controller, which provided an optimal ratio of performance and cost.

A wheeled mobile robot design was selected with the possibility of additional integration of sensors and modules to expand functionality.

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