

Automation Control Development with Capstone Projects

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I. Abstract

This article presents the development of the automation control projects developed in the Mechanical Engineering Technology Program of the Engineering Technology Department at Old Dominion University. These capstone projects are designed to help students gain industrial application experiences on design, test, and implementation. Two projects on automation controls are the focus of this article: (1) an automatic ship-bottom blasting machine and (2) a fully automated Car Jack. Three major topics are presented in each project: (1) introduction of the background, (2) methods to solve the problems in mechanical designs and automation controls such as hydraulic circuit and/or PLC programming, and (3) implementation and test results.

II. Introduction

The course objectives of Automation and Controls that offered in the Mechanical Engineering Technology Program of the Department of Engineering Technology at Old Dominion University are:

- (1) Pneumatic components and pneumatic circuit designs.
- (2) Feedbacks from electrical sensors and related ladder diagrams.
- (3) Introduction to Programmable Logical Controllers (PLC) and PLC ^{[1][2]} programming.
- (4) Integration of pneumatic, electrical, and/or hydraulic components with PLC programming controls.

To ensure students have hands-on experiences in this course, a two-hour/week lab is also required to teach the students with integrate mechanical, pneumatic, and electrical components in ladder diagrams and PLC programming. Basically, the lab includes three main sessions: (1) four weeks of pneumatic applications, (2) four weeks of pneumatic components, electrical sensors, and ladder diagrams, and (3) five weeks of PLC programming using IDEC ^[3] and TRiLOGI ^[4] PLCs. In addition, the simulation software of Automation Studio ^[5] is also used in each project so that students can check their designs before the actual implementation. Depending on the

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Alexander Schlaefer, Ole Blaurock



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Robotic Sailing Alexander Schlaefer, Ole Blaurock, 2011-07-15 While sailing has a long tradition both as a means of transportation and as a sport robotic sailing is a fairly new area of research One of its unique characteristics is the use of wind for propulsion On the one hand this allows for long range and long term autonomy On the other hand the dependency on changing winds presents a serious challenge for short and long term planning collision avoidance and boat control Moreover building a robust and seaworthy sailing robot is no simple task leading to a truly interdisciplinary engineering problem These proceedings summarize the state of the art as presented at the International Robotic Sailing Conference 2011 Following an overview of the history of autonomous sailing a number of recent boat designs is presented ranging from small one design boats to vessels built to cross the Atlantic Ocean Subsequently various aspects of system design and validation are discussed further highlighting the interdisciplinary nature of the field Finally methods for collision avoidance localization and route planning are covered

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Approach for the Job Shop Scheduling Problem Evaluation of the Impact of Plant and Production Management Automation on Job Shop Manufacturing Performances Role of Non Productive Time in the Evaluation of Computer Generated Process Plans
 III Process Technology Computer Managed Process Planning for Cylindrical Parts An Application of Non Linear Goal Programming in Electrodischarge Machining of Composite Material An Expert System for Metalforming Optimal Process Planning for Robotic Assembly Operations Effect of Angular Errors in Part Registration for PC Board Assembly An Evaluation Framework for AGVS Within FMS Computer Aided Machine Loading Technique An Optimal Parallel Algorithm for Channel Assignment
 IV Product Engineering Design Using Case Based Reasoning An Interactive Programming System for Design of Mechanical Clutches An Expert System for the Design and Selection of Ball Bearing Parameters Computer Aided Optimal Design of Gears CAD for Underground Structure A Microcomputer Aided Design of Technical Systems Solid Modeling With Tension Integration of Design Optimization in Finite Element Analysis Automatic Generation of Finite Element Modeling for Integrated CAD and CAE Three Dimensional Mesh Generation A New Approach Effective Modeling of Elastic Mechanical System Through Objective Aimed Finite Element Strategies Design and Evaluation of Shock Isolation of Trailer Mounted Electronic Equipments
 V Workcell Operations Group Technology Cell Formation Using Simulated Annealing Cost Considerations for Cell Design in Group Technology Application of CAD CAM in the Textile Industry CAD CAM of Cams for Use in Automatic Lathes An Objective SIMTOOL in FMS A Methodology for Automating the Redressing of the Grinding Wheel Experimental Investigations on Tool Vibrations in Turning for On Line Tool Wear Monitoring p Based Industrial Grade Multi Channel Temperature Controller For Sugar and Allied Industries Use of Sensors for Safety of Personnel in Robotic Installations
 VI Industrial Applications Determining the Workspace Design of Robotized Cells in Pre Determined Environments Judicious Selection of a Robot for an Industrial Task An Expert System Approach Fixtureless Robotic Assembly Workcell Design of a Wall Scaling Robot for Inspection and Maintenance A Telemanipulator for Hazardous Mining Operations Adoption of Robotic System for Inter Station Handling Operations for Nagpur Milk Scheme India Integration and Realtime Monitoring of Robotic Controllers On the Applications of Part Image Reconstruction Systems in Automated Manufacturing Kalman Filter Application to Tridimensional Rigid Body Motion Parameter Estimation from a Sequence of Images Optimization Techniques for Mathematical Routines Available through High Level Source Code
 VII Task Performance Sensing and **Online Engineering & Internet of Things** Michael E. Auer, Danilo G. Zutin, 2017-09-14 This book discusses online engineering and virtual instrumentation typical working areas for today s engineers and inseparably connected with areas such as Internet of Things cyber physical systems collaborative networks and grids cyber cloud technologies and service architectures to name just a few It presents the outcomes of the 14th International Conference on Remote Engineering and Virtual Instrumentation REV2017 held at Columbia University in New York from 15 to 17 March 2017 The conference addressed fundamentals applications and experiences in the field of online engineering and virtual

instrumentation in the light of growing interest in and need for teleworking remote services and collaborative working environments as a result of the globalization of education The book also discusses guidelines for education in university level courses for these topics *Federal Register* ,2000-06-08 Computerworld ,1981-09-21 For more than 40 years Computerworld has been the leading source of technology news and information for IT influencers worldwide Computerworld s award winning Web site Computerworld com twice monthly publication focused conference series and custom research form the hub of the world s largest global IT media network **Proceedings** American Society for Engineering Education. Conference,1993 Annual Air Traffic Control Association Fall Conference Proceedings Air Traffic Control Association. Fall Conference,2001 **Winter Annual Meeting** American Society of Mechanical Engineers,1998 Paper ,1998 Proceedings. College Industry Education Conference ,1990 **PM Network** ,1998 The Vertical Farm Kheir Al-Kodmany,Andrew Keong Ng,Abel Tablada,Chittaranjan Kole,2024-10-25 Amid economic uncertainties fluctuating oil prices and a rising environmental consciousness the need for sustainable and efficient food production has become dire The Vertical Farm Scientific Advances and Technological Developments systematically navigates the realm of vertical farming VF rooted in a robust scientific foundation Unveiling the intricate convergence of plant biology environmental science and agronomy it provides a profound understanding of contemporary agriculture The book spans lighting systems and climate control mechanisms focusing on sustainability From small urban initiatives to significant commercial endeavors real world case studies showcase VF s adaptability scalability and resilience Addressing multiple challenges the book explores economic considerations and public perceptions recognizing their roles in fostering meaningful advancements in agricultural innovation A volume in the Nextgen Agriculture series this book is valuable to scientists practitioners and students in urban agriculture and planning horticulture engineering landscape architecture and plant technology sciences **Annual Index/abstracts of SAE Technical Papers** ,2006 **FIE '98, Tempe, Arizona** ,1998 *IECON '01* IEEE Industrial Electronics Society. Conference,2001 **ASEE Annual Conference Proceedings** American Society for Engineering Education. Conference,2005 **Annual Conference & Exposition** American Society for Engineering Education,2005

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Table of Contents Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects

1. Understanding the eBook Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects
 - The Rise of Digital Reading Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects
 - Advantages of eBooks Over Traditional Books
2. Identifying Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects
 - Exploring Different Genres
 - Considering Fiction vs. Non-Fiction
 - Determining Your Reading Goals
3. Choosing the Right eBook Platform
 - Popular eBook Platforms
 - Features to Look for in an Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects
 - User-Friendly Interface

4. Exploring eBook Recommendations from Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects
 - Personalized Recommendations
 - Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects User Reviews and Ratings
 - Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects and Bestseller Lists
5. Accessing Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects Free and Paid eBooks
 - Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects Public Domain eBooks
 - Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects eBook Subscription Services
 - Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects Budget-Friendly Options
6. Navigating Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects eBook Formats
 - ePub, PDF, MOBI, and More
 - Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects Compatibility with Devices
 - Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects Enhanced eBook Features
7. Enhancing Your Reading Experience
 - Adjustable Fonts and Text Sizes of Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects
 - Highlighting and Note-Taking Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects
 - Interactive Elements Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects
8. Staying Engaged with Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects
 - Joining Online Reading Communities
 - Participating in Virtual Book Clubs
 - Following Authors and Publishers Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects
9. Balancing eBooks and Physical Books Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects
 - Benefits of a Digital Library
 - Creating a Diverse Reading Collection Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects
10. Overcoming Reading Challenges
 - Dealing with Digital Eye Strain
 - Minimizing Distractions
 - Managing Screen Time
11. Cultivating a Reading Routine Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects
 - Setting Reading Goals Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects
 - Carving Out Dedicated Reading Time

12. Sourcing Reliable Information of Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects
 - Fact-Checking eBook Content of Automation Control Development With Capstone Projects
 - Distinguishing Credible Sources
13. Promoting Lifelong Learning
 - Utilizing eBooks for Skill Development
 - Exploring Educational eBooks
14. Embracing eBook Trends
 - Integration of Multimedia Elements
 - Interactive and Gamified eBooks

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