IEEE Transactions on Robotics

Status Report
AdCom Meeting @ ICRA’06

Alessandro De Luca, Editor-in-Chief
Highlights

- 2 Editors and 11 AE confirmed + 2 new AE (28 AEs by July)
- Submissions are going up (beyond record high of 449 in 2005)
- Reviewing times continue to be as short as possible
- Acceptance rate continues to be low (quality stays high)
- Time to publication reduced and low queue at IEEE
- Impact factor from ISI-JCR
  - Once again record high in 2004
- Xplore “hits” of T-RO are rapidly increasing (hunting T-RA...)

IEEE Robotics and Automation Society
AdCom Meeting

Orlando, FL - 20 May 2006
T-RO Special Issue

**“Human-Robot Interaction”**

- **Guest Editors**: C. Laschi (SSSA, Pisa), C. Breazeal (MIT Media Lab), Y. Nakauchi (Tsukuba)
- **co-chairs of RAS TC on Human-Robot Coordination and Interaction**
- **multi-modal interaction, adjustable autonomy, natural interfaces, cognitive HRI, reciprocal H-R learning, human-guided learning, H-R team operation, interaction robot control, case studies**

- **call for papers**: June 1, 2006 (in T-RO, web, e-news, T-ASE, RAM)
- **submission deadline**: September 30, 2006
- **date of publication**: December 2007 (or one issue before)

- first proposal for T-RO SI that has been approved
### Submissions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>T-RO</th>
<th>T-RA Robotics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>325</td>
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<td>2001</td>
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<td>361</td>
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<td>2003</td>
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<td>2004</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>495</td>
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<td><strong>est 2006</strong></td>
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- **Robotics submissions go up**

  - T-RO in 2005 has **beaten record** submissions of T-RA in 2002 (440)
a look to the latest data for 133 papers currently in review @May12

- 0 in 6-9 months
- 23 in 3-6 months
- 110 in 0-3 months

- running average is **2.2 months** (stays below 3 months since 2 years!!)
- reduced work-in-process
Acceptance rate

\[
\text{acceptance rate} = \frac{\text{accepted} + \text{conditionally accepted}}{\text{reviewed submissions} - \text{withdrawals}}
\]

Current total T-RO = 23.7%
- T-RA #1 in Robotics for years (since 1999, over 12 journals)
- T-RA #2 in Automation and Control Systems in 2004 (46 journals)
RAS Survey part on T-RO

- **Readers** read equally often regular and short papers
  - almost 30% read in full 4 or more regular papers per year
  - good readability, high technical content of published papers

- **Reviewers** show overall satisfaction with procedures
  - selective review process is OK, would like more feedback at the end

- **Authors** like very much
  - completeness of comments, easy communication with Editors,
    simplicity of submission
  - they are glad of timeliness of review, but would like even more…
How do you judge the quality of T-RO papers?
- readability, technical content, usefulness for your work (402 answers)

The bar chart shows the distribution of responses:
- Readability:
  - 1% of respondents rated it 1
  - 2% rated it 2
  - 3% rated it 3
  - 4% rated it 4
  - 5% rated it 5
  - 6% rated it 6
- Technical Content:
  - 1% of respondents rated it 1
  - 2% rated it 2
  - 3% rated it 3
  - 4% rated it 4
  - 5% rated it 5
  - 6% rated it 6
- Usefulness:
  - 1% of respondents rated it 1
  - 2% rated it 2
  - 3% rated it 3
  - 4% rated it 4
  - 5% rated it 5
  - 6% rated it 6
If you have published a paper in T-RO, how would you judge the following aspects?

- timeliness of publication (151); communication with IEEE Pubs, quality of galleys (146); Rapid Posting and Xplore facilities (143)
Free access to full content for EdBoard

TOC sent by Email to “dist-euron” & “robotics-worldwide” distribution lists

Rapid Posting

RSS feed available

full text search

links to T-RA (for cont’ed access)
• T-RO authors can submit also multimedia material since June 2005
• until now 22 papers with videos (about 5.5% of submissions)
• still few compatibility (codecs missing) problems, but OK in general

COLOR FIGURES free of charge
- report on 2001-2006 handed out to IEEE on May 8
  - including past T-RA and current T-RO information
  - embedded in a single document with R&A Magazine
- T-RO and RAM review by PRC on June 22 in Minneapolis
  - T-ASE passed similar review as new Transactions in Feb 2006
- positive overall self-assessment…
Report excerpts…

- average # of months from submission to...
  - first decision (3.3)
  - final acceptance (5.9)
  - publication (10.6)
- conservative projection of T-RO hits in 2006: +72% over 2005
Conclusions

- Transactions on Robotics are in good shape
  - a dedicated Editorial Board

- Expand on content and keep top quality
  - increase further page budget in 2007

- Exploit electronic publication facilities
  - # of papers with “video” attachment expected to increase