CSC 714 Project Report 2

Team:
   Daniel E. Huber       dehuber@ncsu.edu
   Joel J. Winegarden   jjwinega@ncsu.edu

Motion Tracking with the RCX and Quickcam

Project Url: http://www4.ncsu.edu/~jjwinega/csc714/

Solved Issues
   • **Joe:** Built a rotating RCX with webcam mounted on top.
   • **Joe:** Setup Inpd for communication with tower.
   • **Joe:** Wrote wrapper functions for communicating with Inpd (Inpctl.h).
   • **Joe:** Wrote RCX program to receive commands (stop, left or right) and rotate in the direction indicated (camtrack.c).
   • **Joe:** Wrote a command-line program for sending commands via Inpd to the RCX to test communication and reaction in non-realtime (Inphost).
   • **Dan:** Wrote image processing routines to find a specific colored object.
   • **Dan:** Evaluated methods to track an object or motion, including XOR’ing images, searching for a square region of pixels with an average color matching the object, and searching only single pixels.
   • **Dan:** Wrote controls to change the brightness & contrast of the images grabbed from the camera in order to improve image quality.
   • **Dan:** Wrote code to select a target color from a color dialog.
   • **Both:** Included Inpctl.h and liblnp in camtrack. Make calls to send_msg() each time the colored object is located to tell RCX to turn towards it.
   • **Both:** Tested and debugged full setup until it worked correctly.

Open Problems
   • How to deal with the stiffness of the USB camera cable?
   • Further research should be done on effective image processing techniques to track (or locate) a specific object.
   • A configuration file should be created for the image processing software to save default values.