Special Issue

Smart Sensors for Robotic Systems

Message from the Guest Editors

Robotics is currently undergoing a deep revolution, not only in the industrial context, fuelled by the Industry 4.0 programs and Smart Factories concepts, but also in everyday life, with a growing autonomy and human-interaction of the robotic systems. Most of the recent, advanced applications in both scenarios rely on the integration of smart sensors, or on innovative uses of the standard ones. Planning and sensing or the acquisition of perceptions on the operating environment is a crucial component, as is the reliability of the sensory system, which can be increased by concurrent or redundant sensors. This allows robots to become "smart", be able to learn independently the task to be performed, and "make decisions" based on the current environmental situation in which they are found. Sensors can generate increasingly massive volumes of highly varied data, which can help build better machine learning (ML) and artificial intelligence (AI) models, which robots rely on in order to become “autonomous,” make real-time decisions, and navigate in dynamic real-world environments.

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Sensors is a leading journal devoted to fast publication of the latest achievements of technological developments and scientific research in the huge area of physical, chemical and biochemical sensors, including remote sensing and sensor networks. Both experimental and theoretical papers are published, including all aspects of sensor design, technology, proof of concept and application. *Sensors* organizes Special Issues devoted to specific sensing areas and applications each year.

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