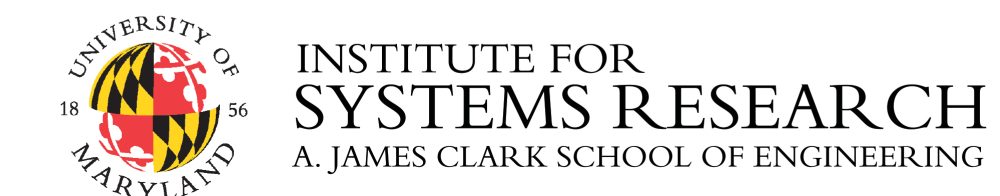


Humanitarian Robotics & Automation Technologies: Improving the Quality of Life for Humanity

Raj Madhavan, Ph.D.

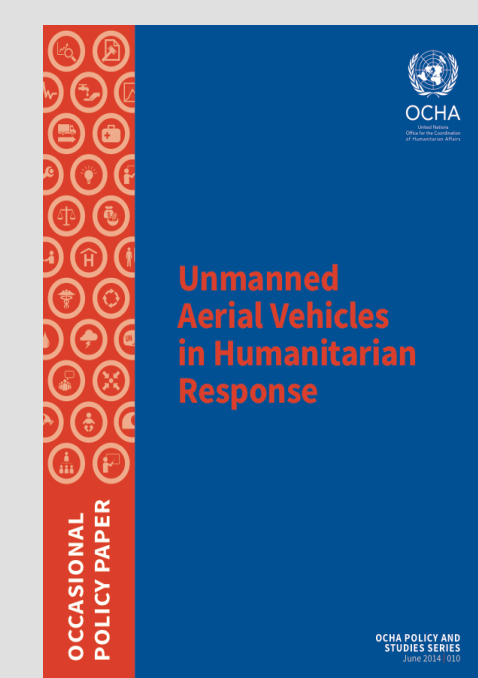


Humanitarian Robotics & Automation?



- Robotics & Automation (R&A) Technologies for
 - Benefit of humanity
 - Use in under-served and under-developed communities in collaboration with local governments and NGOs/NPOs
 - Improving the Quality of Life
- Applied Systems Engineering vs Fundamental Research
- Quality of Life (QoL) vs Standard of Living (SoL)
- Sustainability of R&A Solutions
 - Bottom-up Vs Top-down
 - Economically Viable/Financially Sustaining

Ongoing & Future Work



Research & Development Challenges

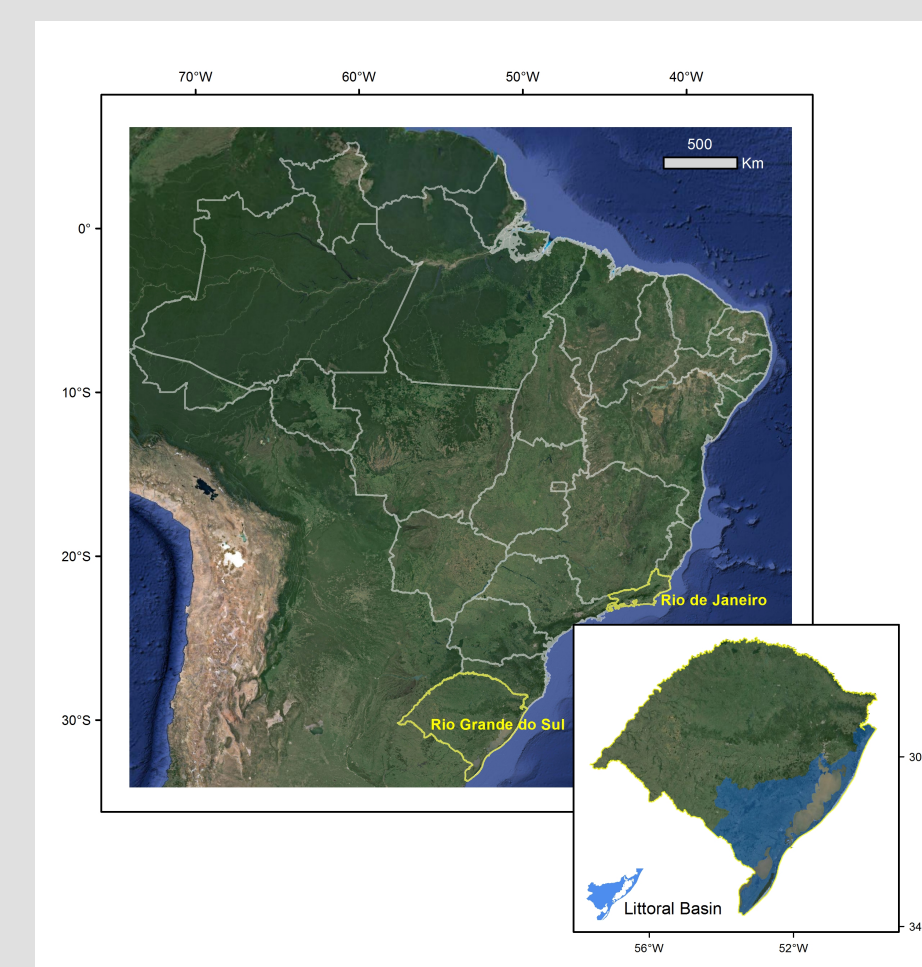
- UAV Navigation, Control, and Mission Management
- UGV/UAV Collaboration
- Integration of other models (Information Systems)
- Deployment of Teams

Outreach & Funding Challenges

- How to connect (get invited) to disaster areas?
- Coordination with State/Federal Agencies & UN/Red Cross (Disaster Management Requirements)
- Working with NGOs/NPOs
- Connecting with Foundations & Funding Agencies

UAVs for Search & Rescue, Disaster Mitigation, Response, and Recovery

- Urban Search and Rescue
- Disaster Prevention, Response, and Recovery
 - Terrain Mapping
 - Airborne Environmental Monitoring/Surveillance
- Humanitarian Demining
 - Animal Anti-poaching
 - Healthcare/Medical Robotics
 - Agriculture
 - Education
 - ...



- Southern Brazil Coastal Plain
 - Sea level changes and Patos Lagoon Coastal Flooding
 - Damage to natural resources and population displacement



- UAVs for Monitoring & Assessment
 - Hydrological Modeling: Prediction of water levels
 - Assistance to local government and federal agencies for recovery and response efforts
 - Infrastructure monitoring & damage assessment
 - Relocation monitoring



Joint work with Profs. Tatiana Silva and Flavia Farina, UFRGS, Brazil

Humanitarian Robotics and Automation Technology Challenges (HRATCs)

- HRATCs are an unprecedented opportunity for technologists from around the world to collaborate using their skills and education to benefit humanity
- Problems (challenges) framed with the environmental, cultural, structural, political, socio-economic, and resource constraints so that solutions can be developed, deployed, and sustained
- Viable solutions using R&A technologies by engaging the academic and non-academic communities to address relevant world problems through several initiatives including:
 - challenges/competitions
 - funding projects
 - establishment of collaboration networks with academia, industry, and governments

