

SSL-Vision Development

Structure of the SSL-Vision development cycle

The repository has two branches:

- the official (subversion "trunk") repository that is considered to be always stable and which will be used for RoboCup.
- one (or possibly multiple) "experimental" branch(es) which are used for new approaches that have not been merged into the trunk yet.

In general, teams are able to propose new algorithms all year round which - if stable, useful, and reasonable enough - can be committed to the experimental branch for continued testing and development.

For adding new features to the official "trunk" branch, there will be an annual schedule:

- Before the 1st Deadline (*feature proposal*): teams can request to have a feature moved from the experimental branch to trunk (to be done on the ssl-vision mailing list).
- Before 2nd Deadline (*feature acceptance / denial*): the requested feature must be verified, tested, and - if accepted - integrated to trunk. At the point of the 2nd deadline the trunk is "feature-frozen".
- After the 2nd Deadline: only bugfixes or missing features that are essential for RoboCup operation can still be added to trunk until the actual competition.
- Before 3rd Deadline (*configuration selection*): if there are multiple configurations / features to choose from in SSL-Vision trunk (i.e. different algorithms, different patterns), then these options must be evaluated and a consensus needs to be made in terms of which feature will be used for RoboCup competition.
- 3rd Deadline: the official configuration for RoboCup is selected, SSL-Vision in trunk is setup to load that configuration as default. An announcement is made on the RoboCup mailing list.

Important dates of the SSL-Vision development cycle in 2010

Feature Proposal Deadline: February 15th

Feature Acceptance Deadline: March 15th

Configuration Selection Deadline: April 15th

Responsible persons

In general, two major kinds of tasks need to be done:

1. Defining the global goals and required features for SSL-Vision. This also includes voting on the actual algorithms to be used in the final configuration.
2. Performing the actual coding / integration / testing / debugging tasks. This does not mean all programming tasks in general but the work that is necessary for assuring that new features work smoothly and stable.

Task 1. will be done by the TC. Task 2. has to be done by approved and experienced senior developers who are dedicated enough to do these tasks.

The senior developers are selected on the typical open source practice to approve additional developers who have shown to the existing senior members that they "know what they're doing". See also the section about "Who gets SVN access?"

Task assignment to developers

All senior developers (including the TC members) are responsible for the task assignment. The actual coordination will be done on the ssl-vision developers mailing list. The TC is responsible for making sure that all deadlines are met by assigning tasks in a reasonable manner.

Who gets SVN access?

Writable SVN-access is used as the definition of being an approved senior developer. It basically means that the person is trusted enough to change the official SSL-Vision code. Everybody else can submit patches to the senior developers.

The current project administrators give out SVN access on a common sense basis. TC members automatically have SVN access.

Open items to be done before RoboCup 2010

The current list of open tasks is maintained within the SSL-Vision-Wiki at <http://code.google.com/p/ssl-vision/wiki/TODO>