

Autonomy Meeting

- What is Autonomy?
- What does the Autonomy team do at WARG?



What is Autonomy?

- Autonomy (in the domain of robotics) means equipping a robot with the tools it needs to **independently** operate in its environment.
- There are 3 components to Autonomy:
 - Perception
 - Decision Making
 - Controls

Let's break down these 3 components.



Perception

- Perception is everything related to the Camera and LiDAR sensors on the robot.
 - LiDAR stands for Light Detection and Ranging (used to determine ranges by targeting an object with a laser).
- Perception helps the robot develop an understanding of its environment and create a model of its world.
 - Object Detection is a common perception related task we do at WARG.







Decision Making

- Decision making refers to finding the optimal choice for the robot to do given the current situation.
- Lots of math and algorithms are involved (i.e. graph theory, probability).
- A task our team has done in the past was to calculate the optimal route for our drone given a table of possible waypoints to fly too.





Controls

- Control theory is the field that deals with the control of dynamical systems in robotics.
- From perception and decision making we can figure out what the next move is, now how do we put this in action?
- Controls for the drone is a shared project with the embedded flight software team.
- A project related to controls that WARG is working on is IMACS (Integrated Monitoring and Control Station).
 - An in-house built Ground Station.



Controls





End-to-End

