

Continuous Alert

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Neapolitan Robots to make EU funded pizzas

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It will be a mobile robot with two arms and two hands, a torso and a head sensorized capable of preparing a pizza from start to finish, PRISMA researchers promise. The goal is not to replace what is irreplaceable as a good Neapolitan pizza chef, but to demonstrate how a robot can reach human level manual dexterity. It goes without saying that the added value of this latest scientific challenge is a crucial step because the robots are increasingly functional not only to industry, but especially for advanced applications in service robotics: at home to help with the housework, space to explore planets, rescue operations etc.

RoDyMan Dynamic robotic Manipulation is a five years research project funded by a European Research Council grant worth 2.5 million Euros, awarded to the CREATE Consortium in collaboration with the University Federico II in Naples, Italy and led by Prof. Bruno Siciliano with his team PRISMA

The challenge, say researchers, is that it is still difficult for a robot to replicate the dexterity of human capabilities. Only by exploiting and combining object dynamics, the robot can manipulate the object in the desired manner.

The researchers explain that dynamic manipulation forces and speed play a significant role in automating manual tasks, together with the kinematic static and quasi- static forces, these can enable a robot to get a complete description of the manipulation task. Complexity increases in the case of deformable objects and robot on mobile platforms.

Taxpayers in Neaples have started queuing up for a first taste of the robot made pizzas.

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