



Physical Continuous Integration
CI with Real Robots!

Alex Henning

10.09.2016

The Problem

- **Using best practices**
 - Continuous integration
 - Code reviews
 - Linters
- **Releasing took a lot of time and *manual* effort**
 - Verifying robots behaved appropriately
 - Slow feedback cycle
 - Real world interactions caused issues
- **We want releases to be *fast* and *robust***

The Solution

Software Continuous Integration

The process of automatically verifying each change, allowing teams to detect problems early.

Physical Continuous Integration

The process of automatically verifying each change on ***real robots***, allowing teams to detect problems early.

What are We Testing?

*fetch*core: fleet management

freight: mobile platform



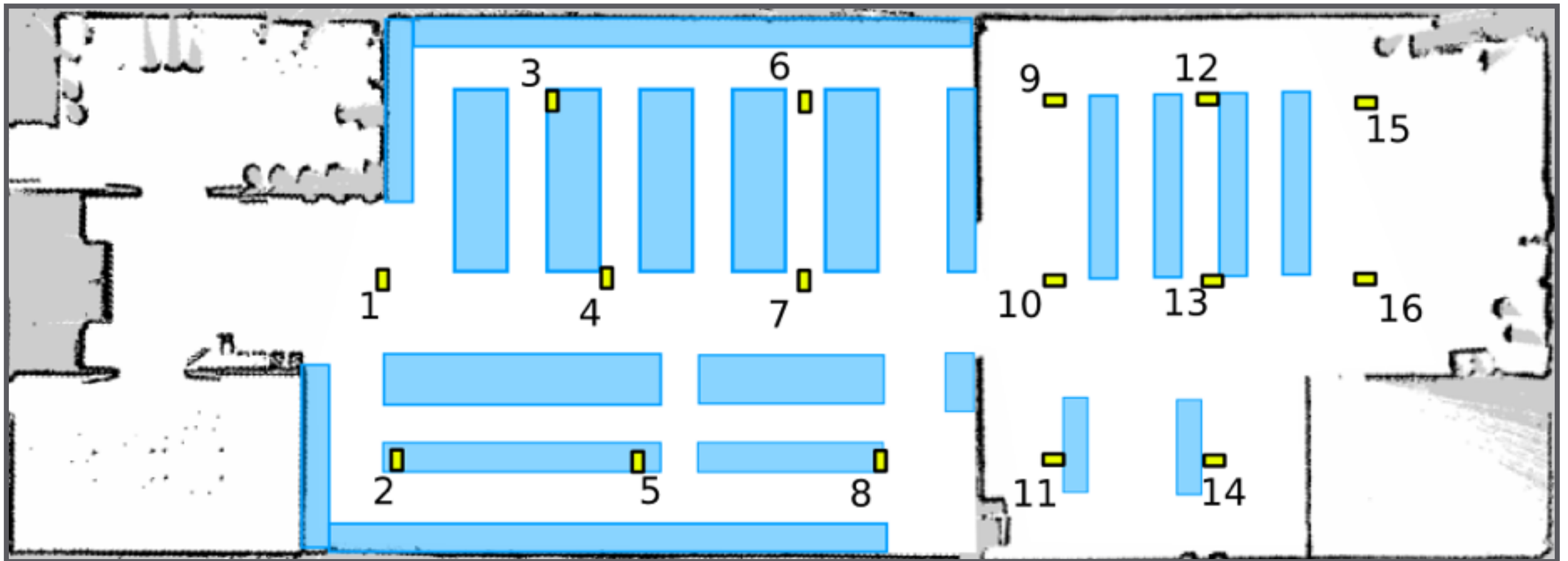
Our Setup

Test Facility

- 7500 Sq. Ft. warehouse
- Multiple robots
- 16 cameras

Servers

- Bag file server
- Video server
- *fetch*core servers



Testing a Change

- Pull in changes from ROS
- Test locally
- Start physical continuous integration

And...

- Some robots refuse to move



What's Wrong?

Available resources:

- Robots are always bagging and logging
- Cameras are always recording
- Tools to get relevant bags and video



What's Wrong?

Let's investigate:

- Logs:
[WARNING] Global plan in collision, replanning
[WARNING] Global plan in collision, replanning

...

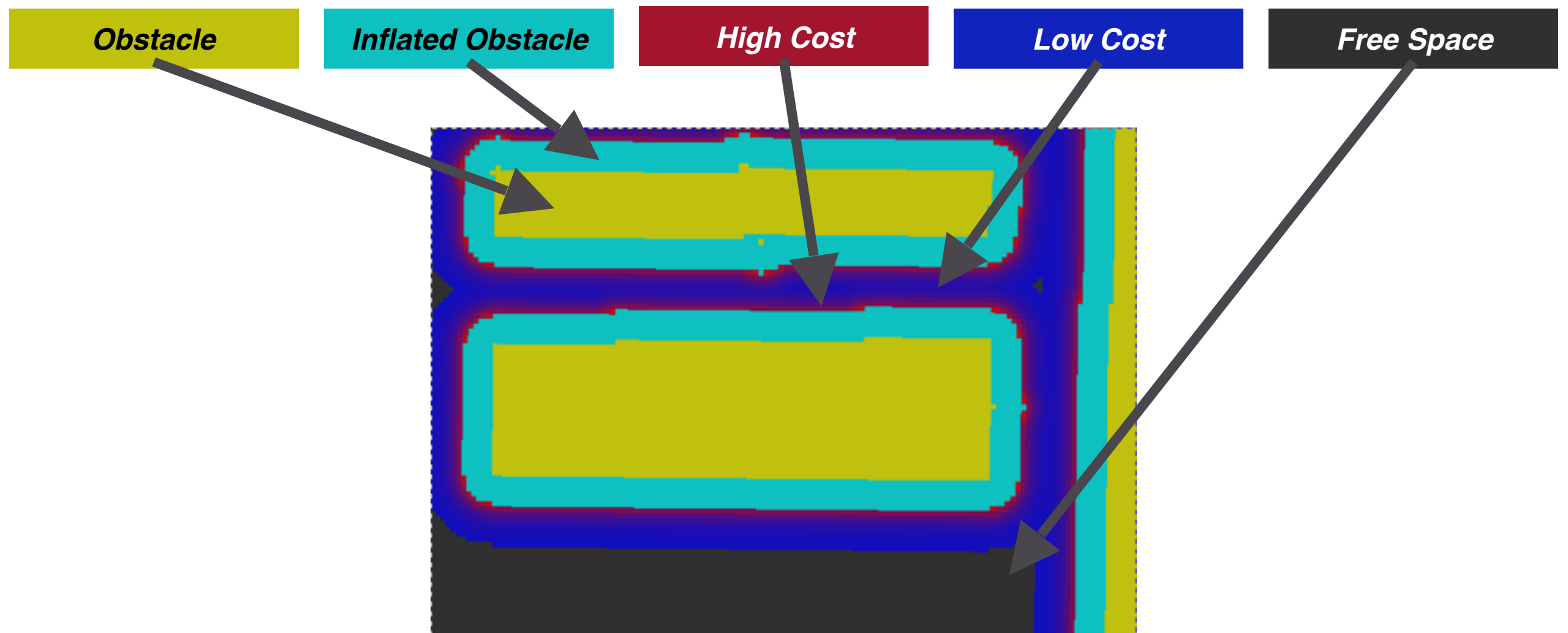
- Cameras:



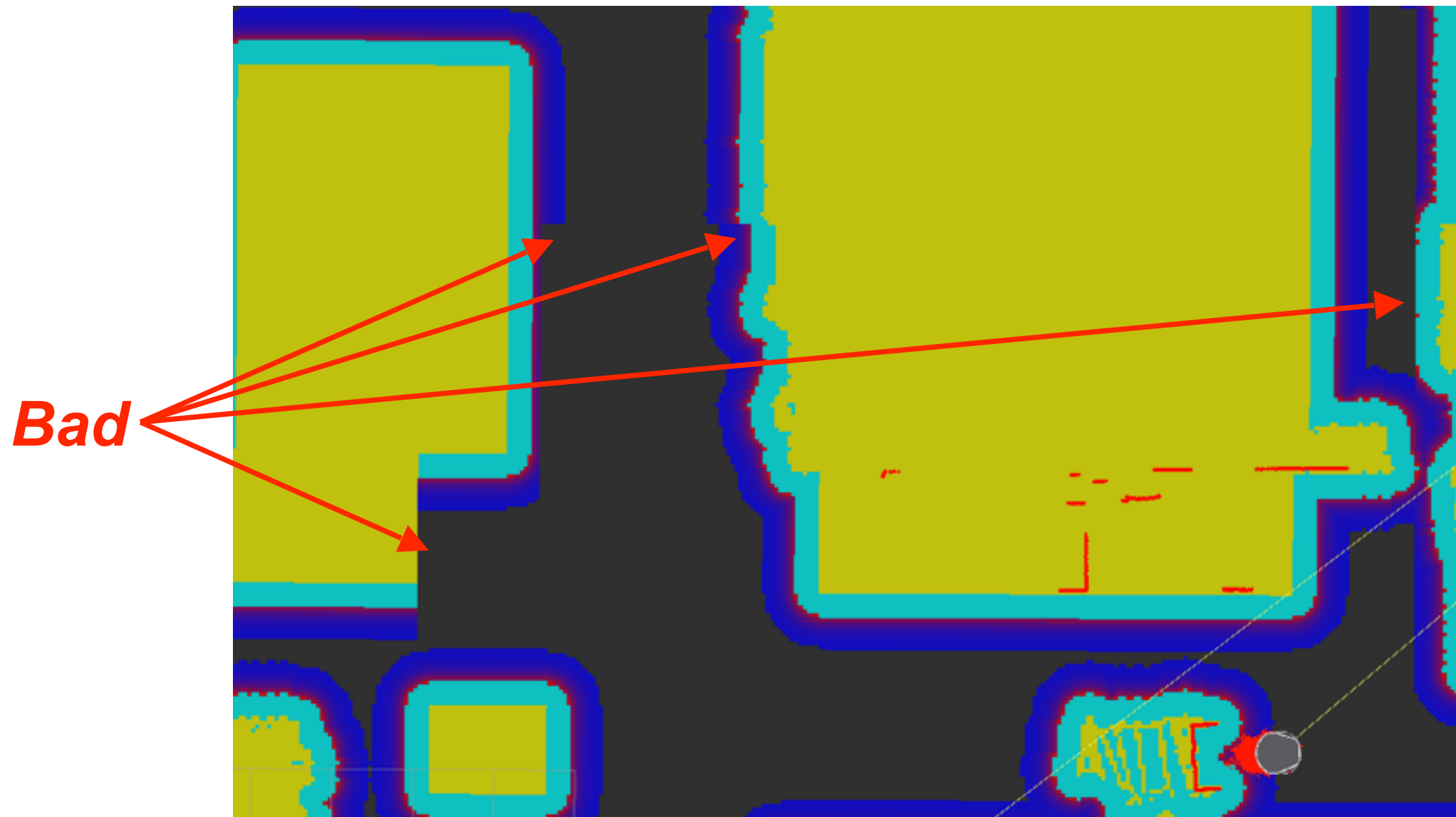
- Bag files and RViz

A Brief Introduction to Costmaps

- Part of the ROS navigation stack
- Used in planning paths
- Helps avoid crashing



What the Bug Looks Like



Now What?

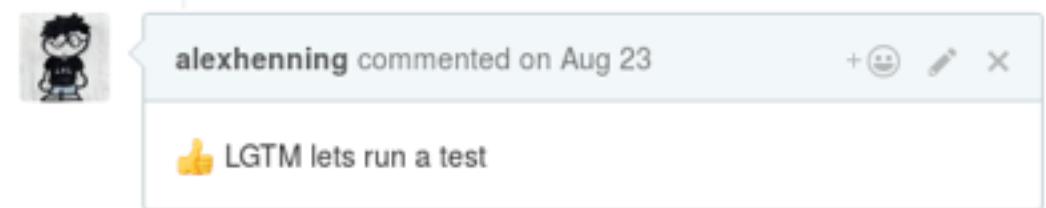
We know what to look for

1. Reproduce the bug
2. Develop a fix
3. Verify fix
4. Software continuous integration
5. Code review

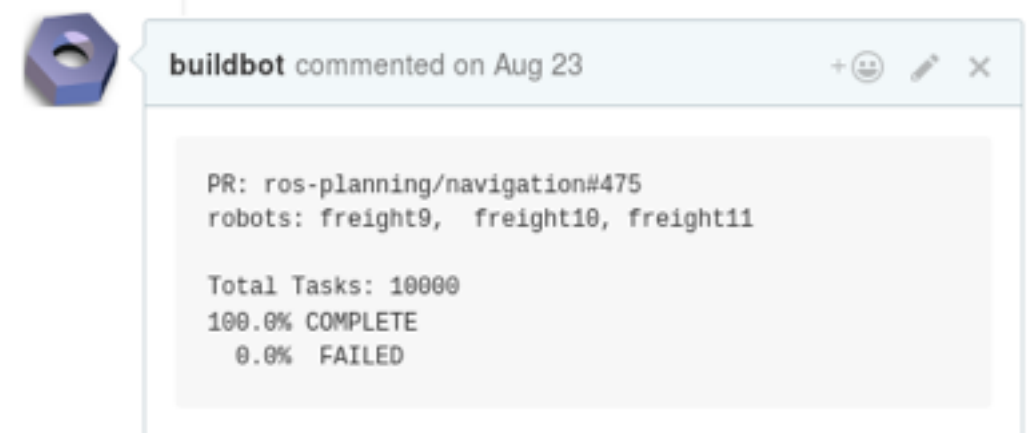


Physical Continuous Integration

- Need a test
 - Automated
 - Catches the problem
 - Avoid regressions
- Run test in the warehouse
- Results get posted on github



```
>>> Preparing test of ros-planning/navigation#475
>>> freight9 is ready
>>> freight10 is ready
>>> freight11 is ready
>>> fetchcore is ready
>>> Starting test
...
>>> Test is done
>>> Posting results to github
```



Problem Solved

All tests pass

Fix costmap artifacts #475

Edit

Merged mikeferguson merged 2 commits into `ros-planning:indigo-devel` from `alexhenning:fix-costmap-artifacts` on Jun 7

Conversation 0 Commits 2 Files changed 2

Changes from all commits 2 files +6 -6

Unified

Split

Review changes

8 costmap_2d/plugins/inflation_layer.cpp

View

		@@ -150,10 +150,10 @@ void InflationLayer::updateBounds(double robot_x, double robot_y, double robot_y
150	150	last_min_y_ = *min_y;
151	151	last_max_x_ = *max_x;
152	152	last_max_y_ = *max_y;
153	-	*min_x = std::min(tmp_min_x, *min_x);
154	-	*min_y = std::min(tmp_min_y, *min_y);
155	-	*max_x = std::max(tmp_max_x, *max_x);
156	-	*max_y = std::max(tmp_max_y, *max_y);
	153	+ *min_x = std::min(tmp_min_x, *min_x) + inflation_radius_;
	154	+ *min_y = std::min(tmp_min_y, *min_y) + inflation_radius_;
	155	+ *max_x = std::max(tmp_max_x, *max_x) + inflation_radius_;
	156	+ *max_y = std::max(tmp_max_y, *max_y) + inflation_radius_;
157	157	}
158	158	}
159	159	

Your Turn

Ansible

- Configuration
- Orchestration
- Manages many machines

ZoneMinder

- Records video
- Detects motion
- 18 TB of storage

Custom Software

- Ties it all together
- Integrates with github
- Gathers data
- Tools for investigating



Pitfalls

Need to deal with the real world

- Crashing
- Delocalization
- Batteries
- Deadlocks

To reduce problems

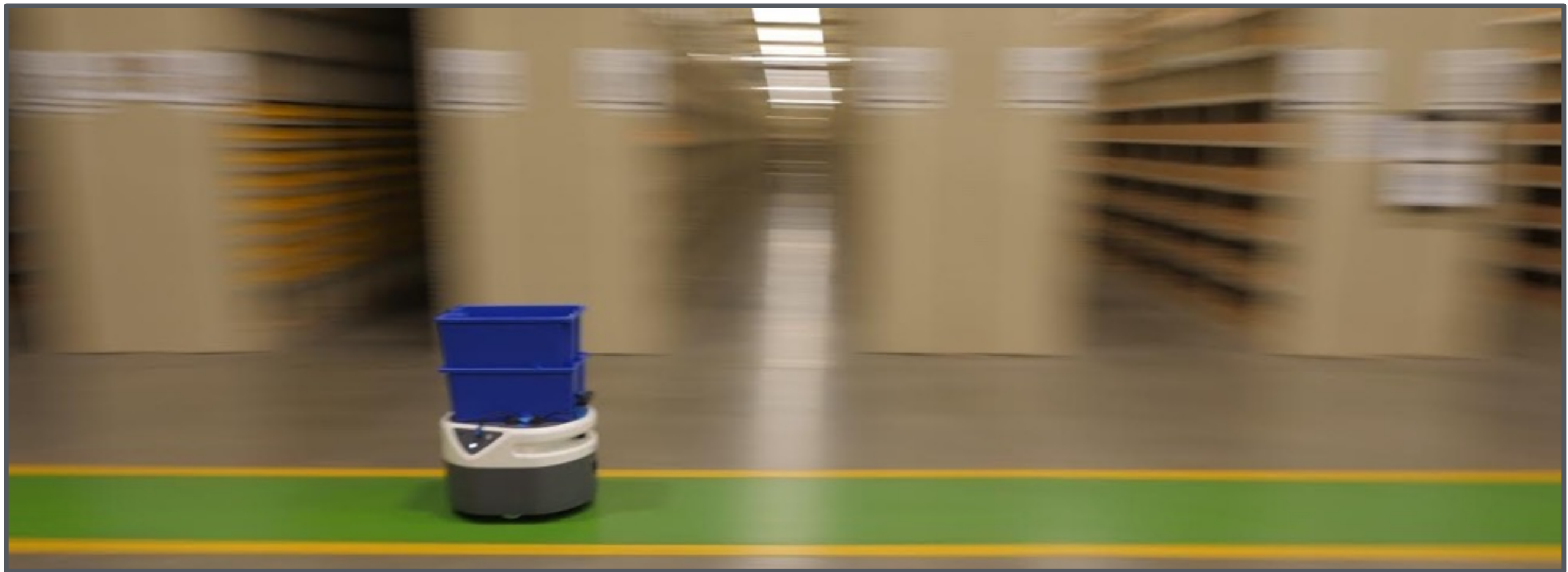
- Code review
- Software continuous integration
- Early termination



Final Remarks

Physical Continuous Integration

- Part of the a good development workflow
- Not a silver bullet
- Anyone shipping robots should integrate it



Questions

