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Weekly Mentorship Log
Week 2: August 7 – August 11

Goals for the week:

- Gain familiarity with the Pyro (Python Robotics) environment
- Write a simple robot “brain” for Pyro
- Establish a connection to one of the AIBO robots
- Control the robot with the sample brain

The Process:

As I mentioned in last week’s log, connecting to the AIBO is not a trivial endeavor. I will provide a brief summary of the process used to establish this connection. The first task was to install Tekkotsu, an open source application that allows complete control of the AIBO and circumvents the factory programming. This application was installed onto a Sony memory stick that was used to replace the standard AIBO operating system, AiboMind3. Next, I had to configure the wireless router to assign a specific IP address to the AIBO. This step took longer than expected because I had to upgrade the router’s firmware to one that supported Static DHCP. Once the wireless connection had been configured, I used Pyro to connect to the AIBO. Finally, I was able to control the AIBO using the Python interpreter. Later, I loaded my sample “brain”, which allowed the AIBO to wander around the room using simple obstacle avoidance. All in all, this was a successful week.