

STRIPS-based Multi-Drone Delivery in a Horn-Shaped Map

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Motivation & Problem Statement

Intelligent System Engineering enables the creation of autonomous agents capable of complex decision-making and planning.

Drones, as intelligent agents, are deployed in real-world scenarios requiring advanced autonomy and adaptability.

Integrating AI planning techniques, such as STRIPS, with real-time simulation and control is a key challenge

- Efficient path planning
- Multi-agent coordination
- Task allocation



- Logistics & Delivery
- Search & Rescue
- Agriculture
- Surveillance

Project Overview

- **STRIPS based Autonomous Path Planning:**
Drones can compute and follow optimal paths while avoiding obstacles.
- **Multi-Agent Coordination Framework:**
Support for multiple drones working together to accomplish complex tasks.
- **Real-Time Simulation & Visualization:**
The system responds dynamically to changes in the environment or mission objectives.
- **Extensible research platform for AI planning :**
Build an open-source platform for future development using LLM based planning.



System Architecture

Layered Architecture

Knowledge Base layer

with Prolog modules (planning logic and facts),

Application Logic layer

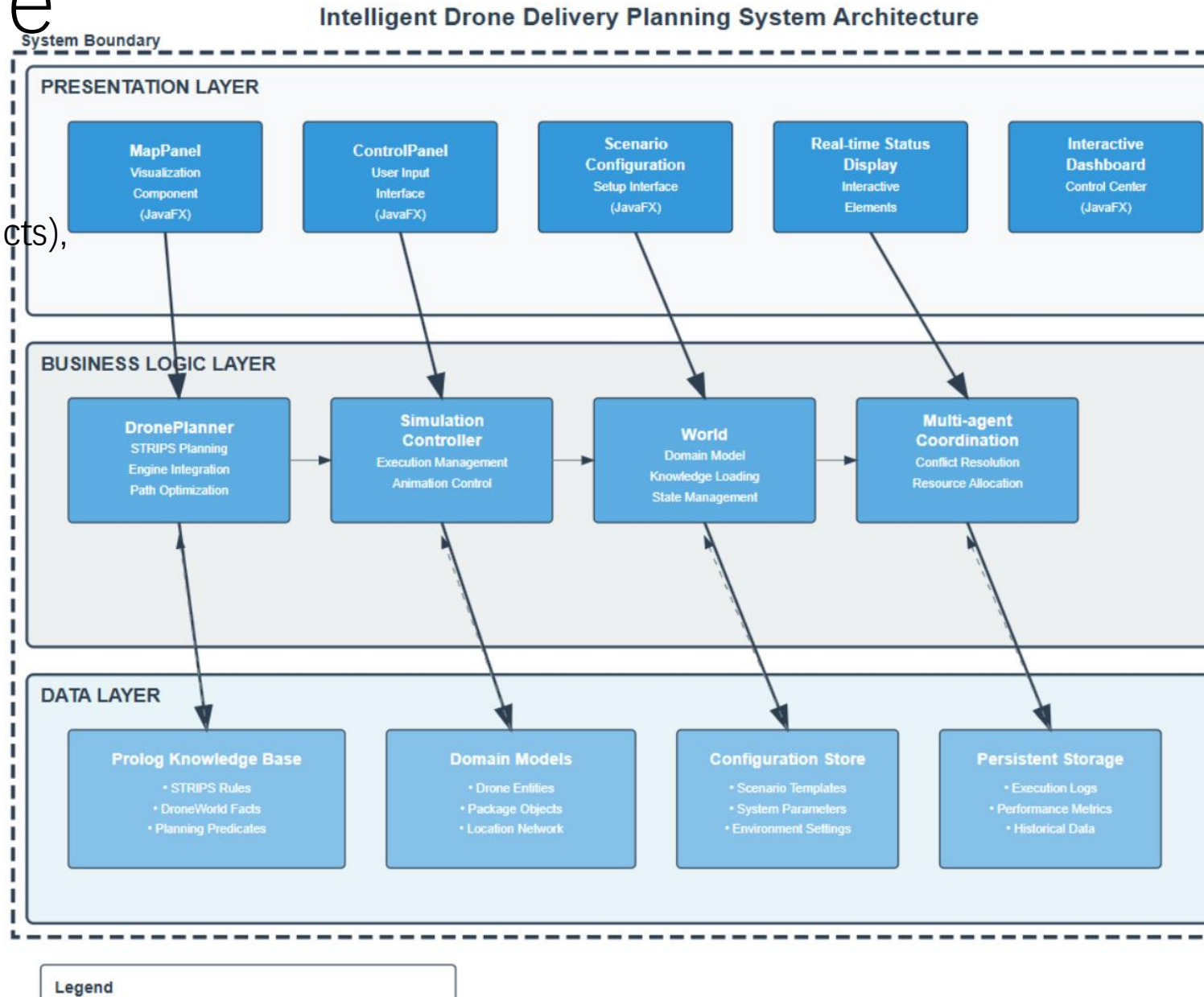
in Kotlin/Java (simulation control)

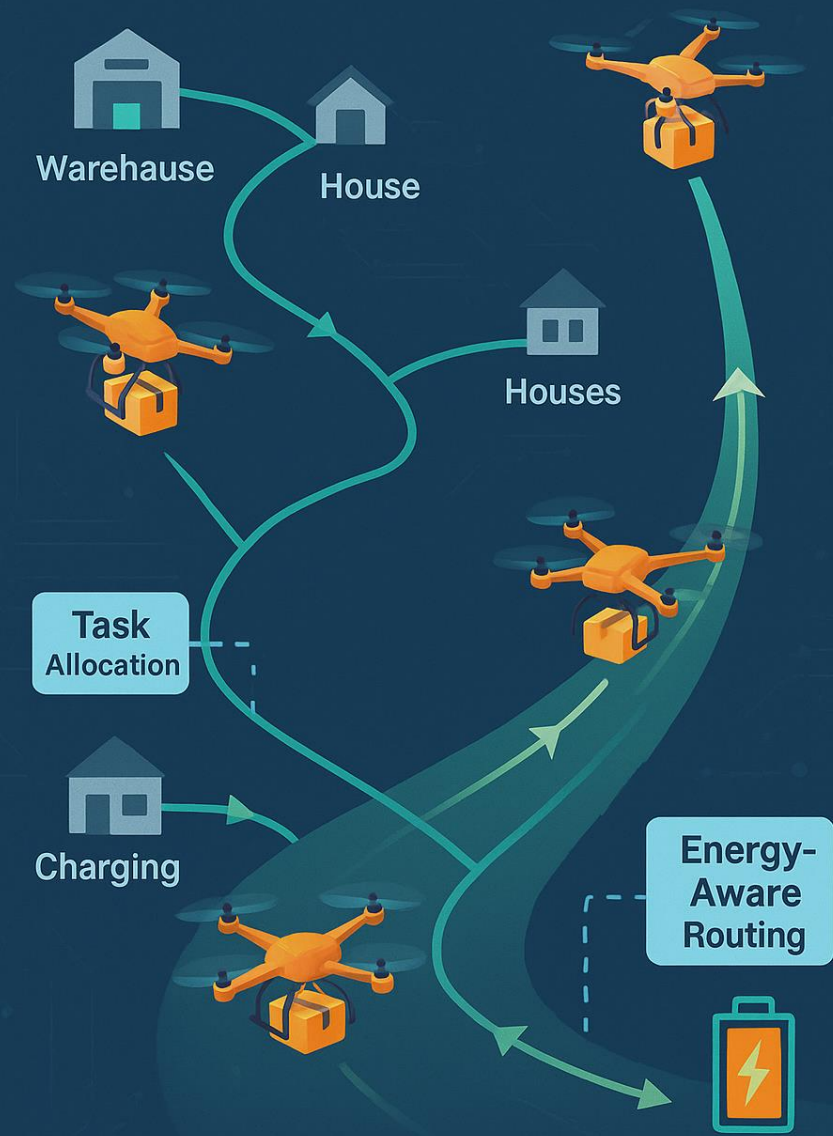
Presentation layer

in JavaFX (GUI).

Hybrid Prolog–Kotlin Integration

Prolog	Kotlin
declarative planning	imperative execution





**Intelligent Multi-drone Coordination
& Complex Network Navigation**

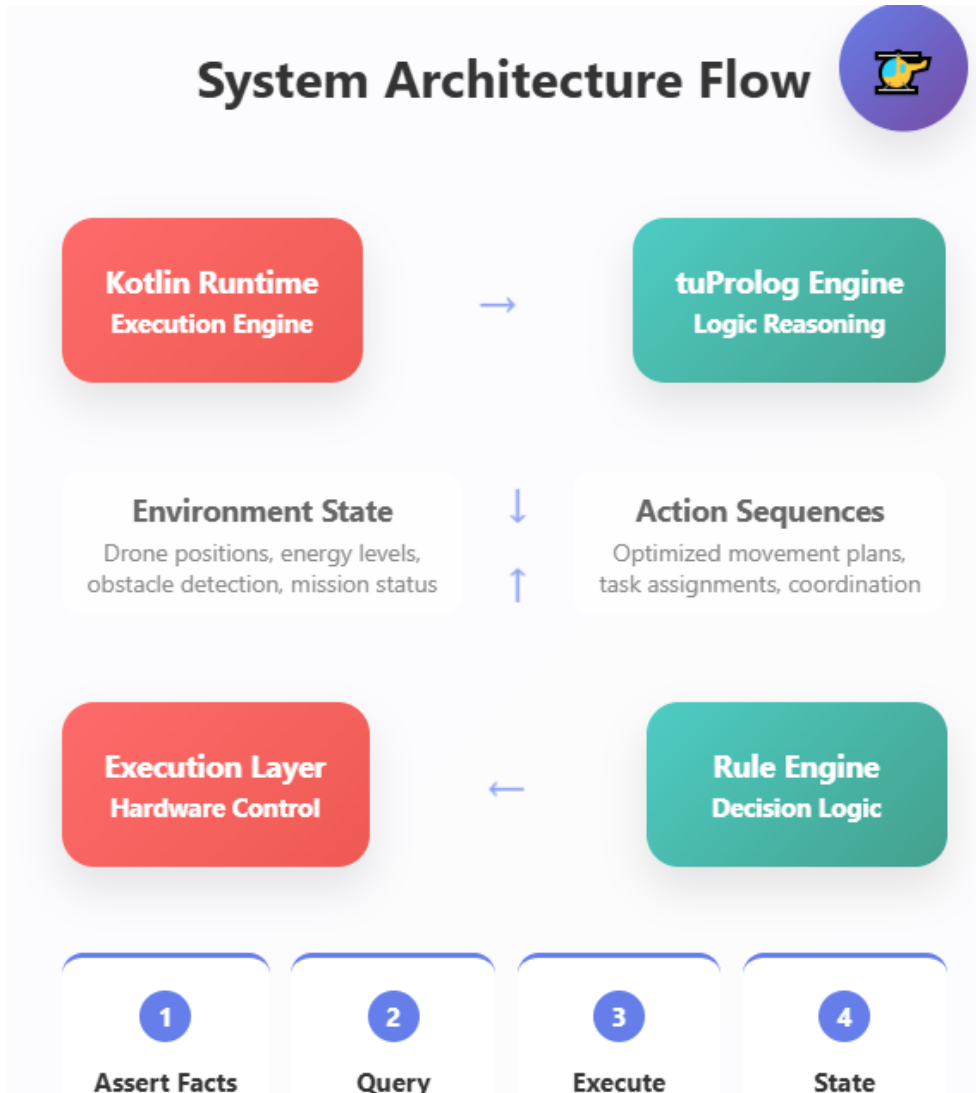
Multi-Drone Coordination Horn-Shaped Map

Multi-Agent Coordination: The planner and framework support multiple drones operating simultaneously in a shared network. Conflict Avoidance & Task Allocation

Horn-Shaped Map Topology: A custom complex map graph (shaped like a horn) models a realistic urban delivery network with branching paths and varied distances.

Energy-Aware Routing: Coordination includes managing battery constraints – drones may need to plan recharge stops route. The system ensures no drone runs out of energy mid-mission by incorporating recharge actions and energy checks in planning.

Kotlin–Prolog Integration Details



tuProlog Engine Embedded:

- ✓ STRIPS planning integration
- ✓ Dynamic fact assertion
- ✓ Real-time query execution

Declarative + Imperative Synergy:

- ✓ Transparent rule-based logic (Prolog)
- ✓ Efficient computation & concurrency (Kotlin)

Bidirectional Communication :

- ✓ State synchronization: Kotlin ↔ Prolog
- ✓ Action retrieval & execution
- ✓ Adaptive replanning capability

Graphical User Interface & Visualization



JavaFX GUI

Rich interactive interface for real-time scenario setup and drone delivery visualization



Scenario Setup

Define warehouses, delvypoints, packages, drones, deadlines, and energy limits



Real-Time Simulation

Animates drone paths, pickups/drop-offs, battery levels, and positions during execution



Visual Feedback

Alerts for critical events like low battery, charging, or delivery completion for clear insights

Testing & Validation

- Comprehensive Testing:** Includes unit and integration tests to verify correctness across all components and delivery scenarios.
- Scenario Coverage:** Evaluated on simple and horn-shaped maps, with cases ranging from basic single-drone tasks to complex multi-drone operations involving low-energy and coordination stress-tests.
- Outcome:** Results validate the system's correctness, adaptability, and reliability, supporting the use of the STRIPS-based approach for multi-drone delivery with complex constraints.

```
✓ test\kotlin\it\unibo\ise\lab\strips
  ▶ TestDroneWorld.kt
  ▶ TestHornDroneWorld.kt
  ▶ TestMultiDronePlanning.kt
```

Test Summary

42
tests

0
failures

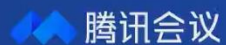
0
ignored

23.564s
duration

100%
successful

Packages		Classes			
Class	Tests	Failures	Ignored	Duration	Success rate
it.unibo.ise.lab.strips.TestDroneWorld	16	0	0	13.937s	100%
it.unibo.ise.lab.strips.TestHornDroneWorld	24	0	0	9.543s	100%
it.unibo.ise.lab.strips.TestMultiDronePlanning	2	0	0	0.084s	100%

Demo



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Conclusions & Next Steps

- **Conclusion:**

- We integrated classical symbolic planning with modern software engineering to build a fully autonomous multi-drone delivery system. Tests confirm the STRIPS-based approach remains effective under complex real-world constraints.

- **Future Work:**

- **Probabilistic Modeling:** Add uncertainty handling for energy and environment.
- **Decentralized Coordination:** Enable drone-to-drone communication.
- **Scenario Expansion:** Create richer maps and integrate real hardware.
- **Smarter Planning:** Use heuristics, ML, or A* to boost planning efficiency.