

ECE 780 T03 Robot Dynamics & Control

Spring 2023

Instructor

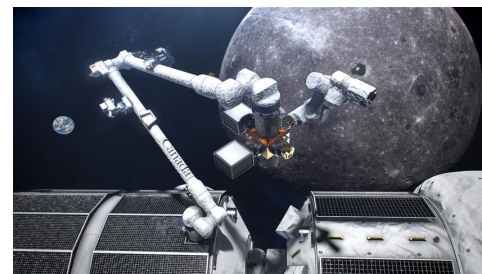
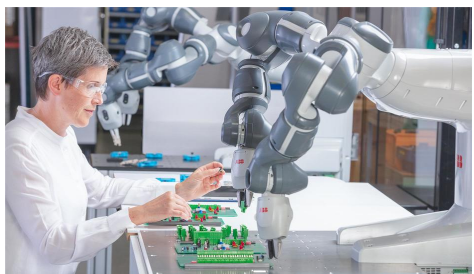
Dr. Gennaro Notomista

Email: gennaro.notomista@uwaterloo.ca

Office: [REDACTED]

Office hours Tuesday, 15:00-17:00

Website <https://www.gnotomista.com/teaching/ece780.html>



Description

This course will introduce students to dynamic modeling and control techniques for robotic systems, and expose them to some cutting-edge research. The course will be divided into five modules, corresponding to the following topics:

1. Dynamics of manipulators
2. Control of manipulators
3. Kinematics of mobile robots
4. Control of mobile robots
5. Optimization-based robot control

Each module will be presented during lectures supported by interactive demonstrations with the Franka Emika manipulator robot (<https://www.franka.de/research>) in the RoboHub. The concepts will be reinforced through homeworks containing both theoretical exercises and programming assignments (Python or MATLAB). The course will also include a project which will allow students to implement robot control algorithms on the mobile manipulator DJI RoboMaster EP (<https://www.dji.com/ca/robomaster-ep>).

Prerequisites There are no formal prerequisites for the course. Some knowledge of linear algebra, rigid body dynamics, feedback control systems, and mathematical optimization can make life a bit easier.

Reading

There is no required textbook. The following texts will be used for parts of the course.

- [1] Mark Spong, Seth Hutchinson, and Mathukumalli Vidyasagar, *Robot modeling and control*, John Wiley & Sons, 2020
- [2] Bruno Siciliano, Lorenzo Sciavicco, Luigi Villani, and Giuseppe Oriolo, *Robotics. Modelling, planning and control*, Springer, 2009

- [3] Stephen Boyd and Lieven Vandenberghe, *Convex optimization*, Cambridge University Press, 2004
- [4] Magnus Egerstedt, *Robot Ecology: Constraint-Based Design for Long-Duration Autonomy*, Princeton University Press, 2021

Additional reading material will be provided as appropriate.

Grading

- Homeworks: 50%
- Project: 50%

Project details

The project will consist of a mobile manipulation task. More details will be given at the beginning of the course. The deliverables will be three:

- A midterm report, in the form a PDF document of maximum 3 pages, describing the progress made and the results obtained so far
- A final report, in the form of a PDF document of maximum 6 pages, structured as follows:
 - Proposed approach
 - Results
 - Discussion
- The code developed to complete the project

The work will be carried out in groups of 2 or 3 people. The reports should be accompanied by the detailed description of the work carried out by each member of the group, including what sections of the report were written by whom. The reports should be formatted using the IEEE conference template (<https://www.ieee.org/conferences/publishing/templates.html>).

Policy on Academic Integrity

Academic integrity To maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from course instructor, academic advisor, or Graduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 - Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline, <https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71>.

Grievance A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their University life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, <https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70>.

Discipline A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity (<https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity>) to

avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the undergraduate Associate Dean.

Appeals A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals, <https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72>.

Note for students with disabilities The Office for persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.

Academic Integrity Office (UW) <https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/>.

Schedule

Date	Subject	Optional reading	HW/project due
	DYNAMICS OF MANIPULATORS		
Week 1	Direct kinematics		
Week 2	Inverse kinematics		
Week 3	Dynamics		HW1
	CONTROL OF MANIPULATORS		
Week 4	Joint space control		
Week 5	Operational space control		HW2
	KINEMATICS OF MOBILE ROBOTS		
Week 6	Kinematic constraints		Midterm project report
Week 7	Kinematic model		HW3
	CONTROL OF MOBILE ROBOTS		
Week 8	Geometric control		
Week 9	Differential flatness		HW4
	OPTIMIZATION-BASED ROBOT CONTROL		
Week 10	Recap of mathematical optimization		
Week 11	Min-norm control laws		
Week 12	Research challenges and opportunities		Final project report