ENGN6627 Robotics

Subject Details:

Australian National University
Department of Engineering
Second Semester 2005
Credit points: 6
Prerequisite: ENGN2221
Incompatible: ENGN4627

Course Components:

Lectures:
3 hours per week
Wednesday 1.00-2.00 pm in Physics Theatre
Thursday 11.00 am - 12.00 pm in Physics Theatre
Friday 9.00-11.00 am in Chemistry Theatre 1 *
(* first hour used, second hour used on an as required basis)

Assignments:
Six assignments will be set, due on:
Assignment 1 - Friday, 10am, August 5th
Assignment 2 - Friday, 10am, August 19th
Assignment 3 - Friday, 10am, September 2nd
Assignment 4 - Friday, 10am, September 30th
Assignment 5 - Friday, 10am, October 14th
Assignment 6 - Friday, 10am, October 28th

Tutorials:
Twelve tutorials in total will be provided. Tutorials will be held on each Monday of the semester, except for the Monday in the first week of semester, or those lying in the two weeks of the mid-semester break. On the Mondays prior to an assignment being due, the idea will be to answer any questions about lecture material, including those that relate to (but do not directly answer) the assignments. The remaining sessions will be dedicated to questions related to the major project. Time: 3-4pm, Location: Forestry Room 103.

Laboratory and Project
One laboratory and one project to be set.

Non-contact:
Students must expect to spend a minimum of 3-4 hours of private study per week in addition to assignment and lab tasks.

Personnel:

Lecturer: Dr Jason Chen
Office: B354 building 115
Telephone 02-61.25.86.13,
Email: jason.chen@anu.edu.au
Office hours: Monday 16.00-17.00, Tuesday 16.00-17.00
(if you need to see me, please organise to do so during these hours - on Weds, Thurs and Fri’s, see me after lectures).

Lab Technician: Mr Padma Chakma
Office: E202 building 32
Telephone: 54885 (6125 4885)
Syllabus ENG6627:

1. Robotics Overview
   - History of Robotics
   - What is a robot
   - Components of a robot
   - What are the key technologies in robotics

2. Spatial Descriptions and Transformations
   - Positions, orientations and Frames
   - Mappings
   - Operators
   - Transformations between frames of reference

3. Manipulator Kinematics
   - Link and link connection descriptions, Fixing frames to links. Denavit-Hartenberg conventions
   - Manipulator kinematics
   - Actuator space, joint space and Cartesian (task) space

4. Inverse Manipulator Kinematics
   - Solvability of manipulator kinematics
   - Manipulator subspaces
   - Algebraic verses Geometric solutions of inverse kinematics

5. Velocities and static forces: The joy of Jacobians
   - Linear and rotational velocity of rigid bodies
   - Motion of links of a robot
   - Velocity of links of a robot
   - Jacobians
   - Singularities
   - Static forces in manipulators

6. Manipulator Dynamics
   - Acceleration of a rigid body
   - Mass distribution
   - Newton-Euler equations
   - Iterative Newton-Euler dynamics
   - Iterative verses closed form
   - Lagrangian formulation of manipulator dynamics
   - Manipulator Dynamics in Cartesian space

7. Trajectory Generation
   - General consideration in path descriptions
• Joint space schemes and Cartesian schemes
• Path generation at run time

8. Mechanical Design of Robots
• Task Requirements and design
• Kinematic configuration and workspace
• Actuators and sensors

9. Linear Control
• Feedback and closed loop
• Control law partitions and structure
• Trajectory tracking control
• Analysis and performance issues

10. Non-linear Control
• The control problem for manipulators
• Lyapunov stability analysis
• Adaptive control
• Compliance and control

Assessment:

Assignments: 15%
Due: As set out above.
Six assignments will be set, each worth 2.5%.

Major Project: 40% (3rd and 4th Teaching Sessions)
Due: 17th October, 3pm at the Tutorial session.
A major project will be set entailing the design of a robot manipulator arm in a particular operating environment. The project will be done in groups of 4 people. The idea will be to apply what has been learnt in the course into the design, and also some investigation of the academic literature will be required to see what has been done before.

Scorbot Manipulator Laboratory: 15% (4th Teaching Session)
Due: On or before Friday, 10am, 28th October.
A lab will be run in the mechatronics research lab on the Eshed scorbot robots. This lab will be completed in lab groups of 2 people. There are only 2 scorbots available, so labs will have to be run over several weeks with different groups working at different times. I will generate a booking sheet and groups can make bookings.

Exam 30%:
There will be 2 exams, one each at the ends of the 3rd and 4th teaching periods respectively. They will cover all material in the course and contribute 15% each to your final mark.
Dates: 29th August and 24th October
Time: 3-4pm
Location: Forestry Room 103
Duration: 1 hour
Allowed material: closed book, calculator (if it fits in a shoe box its ok)

Textbooks:

The main textbook for the course is:
John Craig, “Introduction to Robotics: Mechanics and Control” Addison-Wesley

This is a good generic text on robotics. The course will follow this text relatively closely. Other texts in robotics with an emphasis on robotic manipulators are

M. Spong and M. Vidyasager, “Robot Dynamics and Control”, and


There is no one good reference in mobile robotics. The following reference provides a starting place


And for those with an interest in fiction:


**Web Site:**

The web sit for the course will be off my home page. This site will be linked to the department course web site.


All documents prepared for the course will be posted on the web. All administrative arrangements will be posted on the web site.

Lecture Notes: Lecture notes will be posted on the web site. I will endeavour to have the lecture notes prepared one week prior the lecture being given. If you print-out these notes, please do so double sided and save a tree or two!

Assignment and Labs: Assignment and Lab sheets can be found on the web site.

Tutorial problems from past years: A set of problem sheets, with answers, covering various aspects of the course material will be posted on the web site. These are tutorial questions from past years and provide a good source of worked solutions to typical problems.

Practice Exam: A practice exam with solutions will be posted up on the web.