

MEE5114 Advanced Control for Robotics (Spring 2022)
Course Introduction

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Southern University of Science and Technology

Course Information:

- **Title:** Advanced Control for Robotics (English)
- **Time:** Monday 2:00- 3:50pm / Wednesday 10:20-12:10 am (odd week)
- **Location:** 荔园 2栋 202 / 一教 506
- **Webpage:** Blackboard &

<https://www.wzhanglab.site/teaching/mee-5114-advanced-control-for-robotics/> 

- **Instructor:** Wei Zhang, zhangw3@sustc.edu.cn
- **TA:** Zhen Fu, Yangxing Shang, and Ben Liu

**Make sure you are in the Wechat group and can log in
the Blackboard system**

What is this course about?

- Develop a solid foundation in robot modeling and control to conduct cutting edge research in robotics
 - **Math:** linear algebra, optimization
 - **Modeling:** Advanced rigid body kinematics and dynamics (screw theory and spatial vectors)
 - **Optimization:** learn how to formulate robotic decision and control problem as tractable optimization problems
 - **Control:** Nonlinear control, optimal control, Model predictive control
- This is a **THEORY** class rather than a technology/engineering class.
 - Serves as math requirement
 - This year: no final project, we will have a final take-home exam
 - Homework and project assignment are crucial
 - Some programming will be involved, but only for better appreciation of the theory covered in class.
- **Target Students:**
 - PhD students in robotics with a strong need of advanced control theory
 - Master students in control and robotics with a strong desire to pursue PhD degree
 - Students who can devote substantial time to read and learn outside classroom

hyperfunc. Control Lyapunov func

TR-O IJRR . ICRA IROS

Tentative Schedule:

1. Continuous time linear systems and Matrix Exponential (1 Week)

2. Advanced Kinematics and Dynamics: (4 Weeks)

- a) Rigid body configuration and velocity
- b) Exponential coordinate of rigid body motion
- c) Kinematics of open chain
- d) Rigid body dynamics
- e) Multibody dynamics (Recursive Newton-Euler Algorithm, inverse and forward dynamics)

3. **Basic Optimization** (2 Weeks)

- a) Optimization problems and basic duality theory
- b) Semi-definite Programming (SDP) and linear matrix inequalities

4. **Nonlinear Stability and Stabilization** (3 Weeks)

- a) Lyapunov stability theory
- b) Numerical construction of Lyapunov functions via semi-definite programming
- c) Control-Lyapunov Function for stabilization

CLF

Motion

5. **Basic Robot Control**: (2 Weeks) ⇐

- a) Differential IK
- b) Robot Motion Control (Computed Torque Method, Task-space Inverse Dynamics (TSID))

6. Optimal Control and Model Predictive Control (4 Weeks)

- a) Optimal control problem and dynamic programming
- b) Model Predictive Control for Linear Systems
- c) General MPC Theory (Closed-loop stability, recursive feasibility)

7. **Advanced topics (if time permits)**

- a) Iterative LQR (iLQR)
- b) Differential Dynamic Programming (DDP)
- c) Numerical optimal control (direct and indirect methods, collocation)

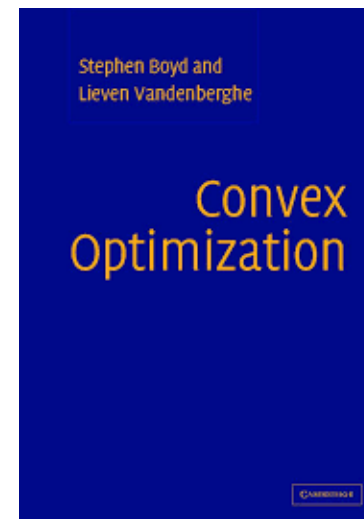
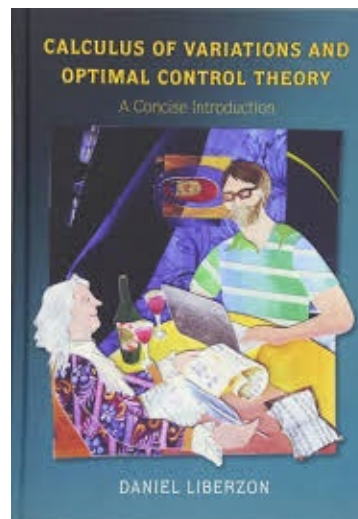
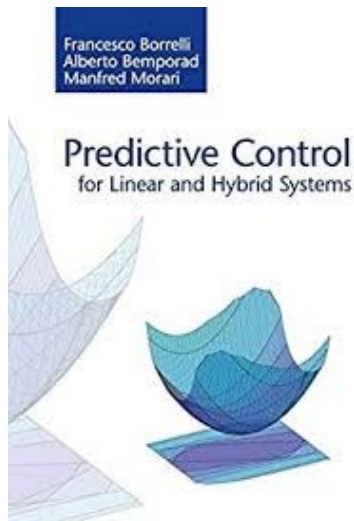
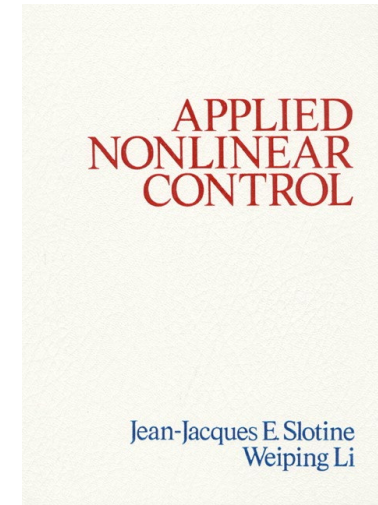
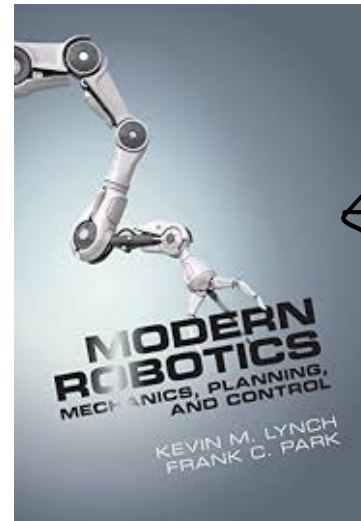
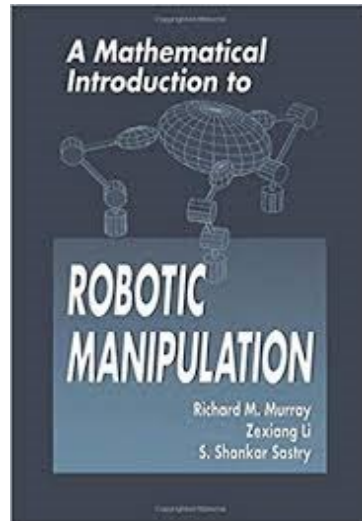
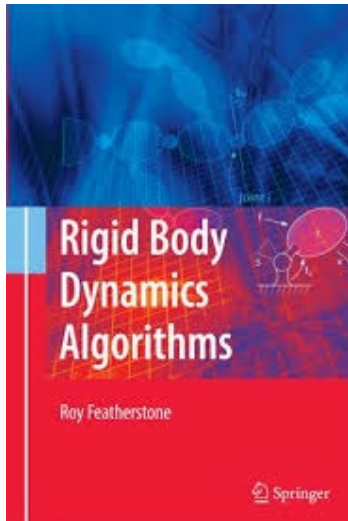
Prerequisite:

- Introduction to robotics
 - Solid background in rigid body kinematics and dynamics in the level described in standard beginner textbooks, such as:
 - “Introduction to Robotics: Mechanics and Control”, J. Craig ←
 - “Robot Modeling and Control”, M. Spong, S. Hutchinson, and M. Vidyasagar
- Undergraduate class in control ⇐
- Maturity in math, solid understanding in linear algebra (see tutorial notes in linear algebra), good at abstract reasoning
- Programming skills: Python & Matlab
 - Involve Python coding with Drake for some assignments ⇐

■ Grading:

- Homework ← 20%
 - Mini-Project ← 15%
 - Quiz ← 10%
 - Midterm ← 25%
 - Final Exam ← 30%
- 

References:



References:

- “Mathematical introduction to robotic manipulation”, R. Murray, Z. Li, S. Sastry
<https://www.cds.caltech.edu/~murray/books/MLS/pdf/mls94-complete.pdf>
- "Modern Robotics: Mechanics, Planning, and Control", Kevin M. Lynch and Frank C. Park, Cambridge University Press, 2017, ISBN 9781107156302
http://hades.mech.northwestern.edu/index.php/Modern_Robotics
- “Rigid Body Dynamics Algorithms”, Roy Featherston <https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9780387743141>
- “Applied Nonlinear Control”, Slotine & Li
- “Predictive Control for Linear and Hybrid Systems”, F. Borrelli, A. Bemporad, M. Morari, Cambridge University Press , July, 2017
- <http://www.mpc.berkeley.edu/mpc-course-material>
- “Calculus of Variations and Optimal Control Theory: A Concise Introduction”, Daniel Liberzon, Princeton University Press, 2011
- <http://liberzon.csl.illinois.edu/teaching/cvoc/cvoc.html>
- “Convex optimization”, Stephen Boyd, Cambridge University Press
<https://web.stanford.edu/~boyd/cvxbook/>
- Lecture notes, and papers distributed in class.

Prerequisite and Background Reading:

- “Linear Algebra Review and Reference”, Zico Kolter
- “The Matrix Cook Book” - Kaare Brandt Petersen, Michael Syskind Pedersen
- “Some Notes on Advanced Calculus”, Nathan Ratliff

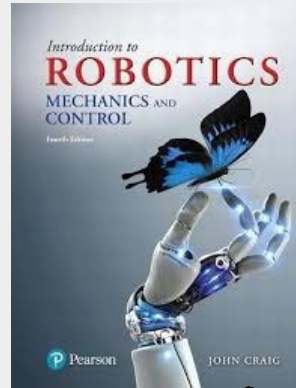
The screenshot displays a grid of 19 video thumbnails from a Bilibili channel. The videos are numbered 1 through 19. Video 5, 'Lec6 Control Design and Testing in Drake with Python', is circled in black with the handwritten text 'lec 6' above it. Video 18, 'Lecture0 线性代数回顾', is also circled in black with the handwritten text '1' next to it. Other thumbnails have handwritten numbers 1 through 19 next to them. A large bracket on the left side of the grid encompasses videos 1 through 5. The thumbnails include titles like 'Lec9 Course Summary Final Review', 'Lec8 Dynamic Programming & Linear Quadratic Regulator', 'Lec7 Kalman Filter', 'Lec6 补充 状态空间跟踪控制器', 'Lec5 State-Feedback and Output Feedback Control', 'Lec4 Stability, Controllability, and Observability', 'Lec3 Least Squares and Basic System Identification', 'Lec2 State Space Model', 'Python for Control 1-3', 'Python for Control 1-2', 'Python for Control 1-1', 'Lec1-3 Part II', 'Lec1-3 Part I', 'Lec1-2 线性代数回顾', 'Lec1-1 线性代数回顾', and 'Tutorial: 安装WSL2'.

How to learn robotics?

Analogous to Math Analysis

non-robotic major
Undergraduate

- D-H based kinematics
- Lack of solid training on dynamics



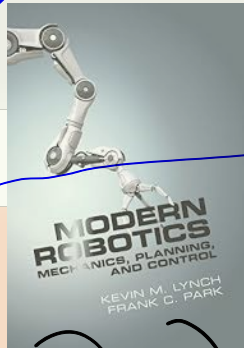
Craig ↕



Spong ↑

Non-math major

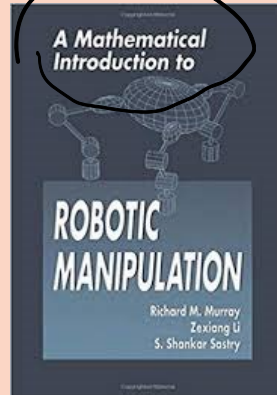
Calculus ←



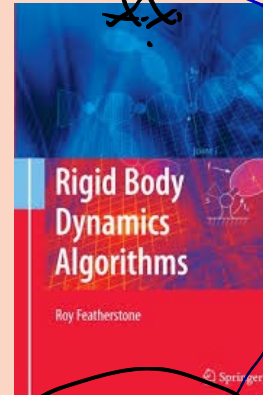
Lynch & Park

graduate level

robotics majors
 Screw theory & PoE based kinematics and dynamics



Murray, Li, & Sastry



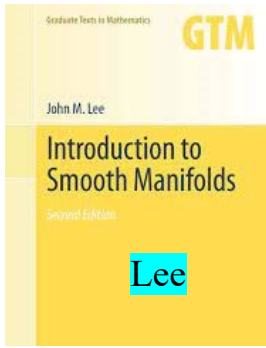
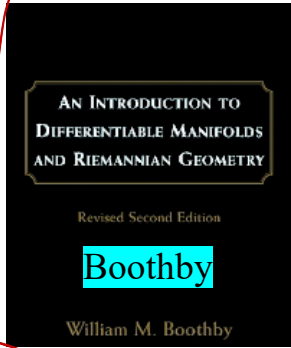
Featherstone

Math major

Real Analysis ⇐

How to learn advanced kinematics and dynamics?

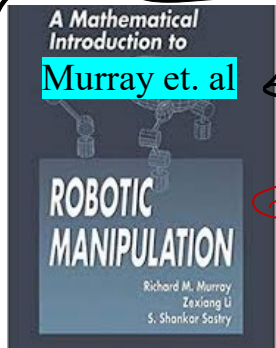
PDE math



topology abstract algebra, analysis

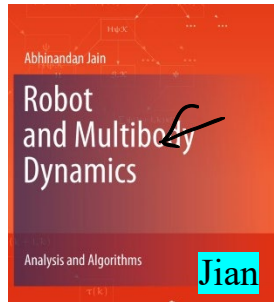
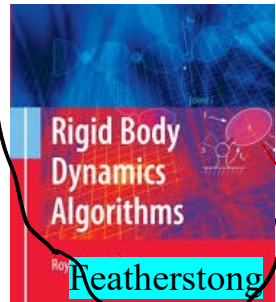
math

Differential geometry, manifolds, tangent space, cotangent space, differential forms, Lie groups, Lie algebra, Lie bracket, Riemannian metric, adjoint operator



differential geometry adjoint operator

Screw axis, twist, exponential coordinate, wrench, product of exponential, multibody dynamics, Newton-Euler Equation



Spatial velocity, spatial acceleration, spatial cross product

'physics' approach

